

## Family Bulletin / Bevin News– 20 September 2020

### The Return to College

We are proud of the manner and attitude of our students as we fully reopened. The sound of learning has returned to the College, which is very welcome. There is a real feeling of mutual purpose as we get learning back on track.



It is particularly exciting to meet our new cohort of Year 7 students (Green Ties) and to see many of the 'old' Green Ties return to Year 12 with their excellent examination results. Year 7 successfully took CAT tests on Tuesday 15 September. We wish the 115 former year 13 students the best as they start their university course this week.

Many weeks of planning went into the reopening and we are relieved to see it run smoothly. We have made a few adjustments during the week, for example students are now sterilising hands on arrival as hand-washing was creating delays. Some movement routes have been changed.

We have worked hard to make the College feel as normal as possible for students. They are studying the full range of subjects, including PE and DT. They have breaks and lunchtimes. Nothing is quite the same as before, but we feel we have achieved a good balance. We have run assemblies. They have finally got to meet their Interim Principal!

It is vital that all students comply with the expectations which have been clearly explained to them. For example they must remain in their bubble, avoid touching each other, keep the noise down and maintain hygiene. It is also imperative that there are no delays to learning caused by disorganised students or disruptive behaviour. Families are urged to support these messages.

### College Uniform

All students in years 7 to 11 are expected to wear uniform. We understand that there have been some delays in getting uniform items from Hewitt's online service. They have assured us that stocks are good and queues at the store have reduced.

[www.hewittsofcroydon.com](http://www.hewittsofcroydon.com)

### Before and After College

We ask that families support our efforts to manage bubbles by ensuring that students arrive within the arrival time window for their bubble. There is limited space for waiting outside the College and late arrivals disrupt the work of classes. Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 &9) should arrive between 8.30 and 8.45 am, Key Stage 4 (Years 10 &11) between 8.45 and 9am and Key Stage 5 (Sixth Form – Years 12 &13) between 9 and 9.15am.



Students are dismissed from afternoon lessons and are expected to travel directly home.

### Mentoring sessions

Each student has been allocated to an adult mentor. They had the opportunity for an interview with their mentor as part of the reopening process. We have organised for mentors to meet with their allocated students each fortnight, starting this week (21 September). On the allocated day students will benefit from a short mentoring session after College. (Monday Year 8, Tuesday Year 9, Wednesday Year 10, Thursday Year 7 and Friday Year 11). A similar process is being followed for Years 12 and 13.



### Extra-curricular activities and clubs

One of the tough decisions we had to make when reopening College was to put clubs on hold, so that we could focus on getting the core curriculum offer working safely. We plan to have activities starting up again over the next few weeks. For example Year 9 students have been offered the chance to enlist with the Combined Cadet Force.

### Reorganised Events

There are various evening events scheduled for the first half of the Autumn Term. We will be in touch with those involved to remind you of the day/time or let you know about changes to the format of events.

### College Open Events

We have our Open Events coming up for prospective Year 7 students. Open Morning is Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 9.30-11.30am and Open Evening from 5.30-7.30pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Please encourage friends and family with boys in years 4, 5 or 6 to come along. We have planned a socially distant, Covid-secure, event, and we do feel strongly that potential students and their families should get a true sense of the College by actually visiting.

Booking is essential for both events, here is a link to the relevant page on the website, please book a place.

<https://bit.ly/ErnestBevin2020>

### Contingency Plans

Sadly we do need to accept that at some point local or national Covid pressures may force us to into some form of closure. Please be assured there are contingency plans in place, to ensure we can switch to remote learning again. Canvas will be the platform used as it was earlier in the year. Homework is currently being set on Canvas, so please ensure that your student is able to access Canvas from home and gets used to the system by regularly logging on to complete homework, and is able to access classwork if we need to switch to remote learning.

### Student Planner

Families may have noticed the new look planner. This is now pocket sized. As all homework is now being set through Canvas, the planner could be made more compact. We do ask that families check the planner weekly and sign it.

### The College

Students and staff were welcomed back with many rooms and common areas having been repainted. Much of the roofing has been replaced (no more leaks). Rooms on the upper floors are having new blinds installed and new cycle parking is in place outside the reception area. Grime has been pressure washed from the Courtyard and walkways. These environmental improvements make us all feel better, and we ask that students respect their College and keep it looking clean and fresh.

### Friday Prayers

Students may take advantage of prayers during lunch breaks on Fridays. These run in line with the staggered timetables and only one year group bubble will be in the prayer room at a time. If possible students should bring their own mats.

### Your contact details

It is more important than ever that we hold up to date contact details for all families. If your phone number or email address has changed, please inform the college office. Current guidance is that we should hold at least three phone numbers for the family of every student.