

Ernest Bevin College and Sixth Form Centre



A Specialist Sports, Mathematics & Computing College

Beechcroft Road, Tooting, London, SW17 7DF

Tel: 020 8672 8582 Fax: 020 8767 5502

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Principal: Tracy Dohel

Monday 3rd January 2022

Dear Parents/carers and students,

Re: Start of term January 2022

Welcome to 2022! I hope you and your families had a restful and safe couple of weeks and we look forward to seeing you back at school.

Please find some reminders about returning to school and the key changes in government guidance.

Return to school

This remains as described in my end of term letter which can be found on our [website](#). There is also a link on the homepage of the website that will take you to the return to school letter. Students with consent are encouraged to be tested on their return to school.

Year 11, 12 and 13 who have consent to be tested should arrive to school at 8.45am on Tuesday 4th January.

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 who have consent to be tested should arrive to school at 8.45am on Wednesday 5th January.

Key changes to government guidance

The government announced two key changes over the holiday period and they can be found in full [here](#).

In summary:

1. The self-isolation rules for those with a positive result has changed. If your child tests positive they should now conduct a lateral flow test on Day 6 and Day 7 and if both are negative, they can return to school. If you need support with this, please contact our attendance officer, Miss Sweeny, who can go through this with you.
2. Staff and students were already wearing face coverings in our communal areas and from 4th January, we will follow the guidance for students to also wear face coverings in classrooms and teaching spaces. This guidance will be reviewed by the government on 26 January.

Face coverings

EBC will be following the government guidance in relation to face coverings.

Face coverings help protect the wearer and others against the spread of infection because they cover the nose and mouth, which are the main confirmed sources of transmission of COVID-19. Government guidance recommends that face coverings should be worn by students, staff and adult visitors when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas. This is a temporary measure.

From January 4th, the government also recommends that face coverings should be worn in classrooms.

This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons. This will also be a temporary measure.

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We would not ordinarily expect teachers to wear a face covering in the classroom if they are at the front of the class, to support education delivery.

We would expect that students lower their masks as a reasonable request by a teacher or other staff member to facilitate learning.

We also expect students to wear recommended face coverings. This does not include, bandanas, scarves, snoods or equivalent.

Other measures

We will continue ventilating the rooms in which students learn and encourage regular hand hygiene.

Examinations and assessments in January

At EBC we are planning for examinations and assessments in January to go ahead as originally planned. We will check with awarding organisations to make sure we have the latest information on any adaptations to the delivery of the exams and assessments, and procedures for special considerations.

Support for students

We understand that students and families may feel concerned regarding COVID-19 and ongoing measures in place. I would like to remind you of the way in which EBC can support your child through the information on our [website](#). If you need to raise a specific concern or would like to ask about support, please do contact your child's tutor or Head of Year.

Welcome to new staff

Finally, a warm welcome to the staff joining us in January:

Teachers:

Miss Suntharalingam, Teacher of Mathematics

Mr Butler, Teacher of History

Mr Wilson, Teacher of Computer Science

Miss Babiker, Teacher of Computer Science

Mr. Kilner-Johnson, our new Acting Head of Yellow Ties (Year 10).

Support staff:

Mrs Mayhew, School Business Manager

Miss Ngombo, Healthcare Coordinator

Mr Safdar, IT technician

Mr Nguyen, IT technician

Miss Jamil, IT Manager

Miss Tweed, Marketing and Communications Officer

I remain proud of the fact that EBC maintained a high level of attendance, with a low rate of COVID and we did not need to close either the whole school or send a bubble home.

I ask that we continue to work together, follow the guidance and continue to test twice a week to ensure that we minimise COVID-19 impacting the education of our children.

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Take care, keep safe and all the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracy Dohel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tracy Dohel
Principal