

Thursday 16th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As Christmas fast approaches, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all students and their families a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break. Students have worked incredibly hard this term and many have also taken part in a host of exciting extra-curricular activities. Students have also demonstrated their care, concern and compassion for the wider community by organising a number of fundraising activities and donating generously to charities including Children in Need, Macmillan and the B30 Foodbank.

The hard work and dedication of staff and students has been recognised in our OFSTED report. Leadership and management, Personal development and EYFS have all been judged as Good. The report was published yesterday and can be read here - [50174092 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspections/50174092) The Bournville School community can rightly be proud of the progress that has been made. After a good rest over the holidays we will be firmly focused making further positive progress.

Start of Term Arrangements

Students will return from Wednesday 5th January. This will be a staggered start in secondary to facilitate testing.

Wednesday 5th January

- All primary children return to school
- Year 7 & 11 in school for 8.40am.
- Covid testing for Years 7 & 11.

Thursday 6th January

- Year 7, 10 & 11 in school for 8.40am
- Year 8 in school for 9.40am.
- Covid testing for Years 8 & 10.

Friday 7th January

- All year groups in school for 8.40am.
- Covid testing for Year 9.

Attendance

The loss of learning due to the lockdown, and the continuing risk that students or groups of students will have to self-isolate, mean that it is more important than ever that students are in school, learning, every day that they can be. So far this year over 30% of students have attended every single day which is excellent. Please be reminded that the attendance target for all children is 97% which equates to no more than 5 days of absence throughout the whole academic year (this does not apply when families are self-isolating as per government guidance). Please avoid making medical or dental appointments during school time and be aware that we do not authorise holidays during term time, unless in exceptional circumstances. Parents should be aware that we work closely with the local authority to prosecute parents who do not ensure their child has good attendance.

Punctuality

It is important that all students are on time to school and for their lessons. Punctuality was highlighted as an issue in our recent Ofsted report, so it will be an area of focus for this term. In order to improve punctuality to school, we will be making the following changes:

- The Griffins Brook Lane gate will now close at 8.40am. This is because form time starts at 8.40am and therefore students need to be in school before this time. Students arriving after 8.40am will receive a late mark. Two late marks in a week will result in a 30-minute detention.
- Students who arrive to school after 8.40am will need to sign-in at the top gate by the school car park. They will be met by a Senior Member of staff who will issue a late mark.
- Any students arriving after 8.55am will be significantly late to school and will therefore receive a detention for 30 minutes.
- For primary children, the gates will also close at 8:40am.

Your support with punctuality is crucial. We want our students to form good habits so that they are able to be well-disciplined for their any future employment.

Ethos Cards

This term we issued students with Ethos Cards. These cards are carried around by students to increase their personal responsibility for their conduct. The cards are used to record positive and negative behaviour points. Students who fill their card with positive points will be entered into a prize draw for a £20 Amazon voucher. There will be ten vouchers for students to win. Teachers will be looking for students with correct uniform and for being kind or polite, in order to sign student cards for positive points. Our staff will also sign the cards for negative points. This could be for being late to lesson, not having correct uniform, or poor behaviour outside of lessons. Three signatures for negative points will result in a 30-minute detention.

Uniform

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure that your child comes to school in full school uniform. Next term we will be particularly focusing on ensuring students are wearing the correct footwear as part of the agreed uniform standards. Our uniform standards can be found on our website and uniform can be purchased from Clive Mark, Kings Heath or Kids Essentials, Northfield.

- No hoodies to be worn in school or under blazers
- Bournville blazers to be worn at all times
- Jewellery – the only jewellery permitted is one small stud earring in each lobe and a wrist watch.
- Makeup must be discreet. Students will be expected to remove makeup deemed to be excessive.
- During the winter months we recommend your child wears a waterproof, warm coat.
- Shoes must be black and polishable – no trainers, pumps or boots.
- If students do not wear appropriate footwear they will be expected to borrow shoes that have been quarantined for 3 days or parents will need to bring in their correct shoes.
- Primary children should also follow the uniform regulations as set out in the uniform section of the school website.

If personal finances mean you cannot provide your child with shoes, please let us know by email and we will try and help (post@bournville.fmat.co.uk). Students who ignore our standards will receive a signature on their ethos card. Three signatures will result in a 30-minute detention.

Students who are wearing their uniform correctly will have their card routinely signed for positive points.

Safeguarding/Mobile Phones

Students carrying a mobile phone must keep it switched off and securely stored in their bag or inside blazer pocket. Parents wishing to contact their child during the school day should do so via the school office. During lesson times or changeover phones must not be seen by staff, the student's ethos card will be signed. To facilitate student learning teachers may also confiscate phones for the lesson or school day.

Work over the Christmas Period

Students have worked hard this term and have produced lots of excellent work in their books, if they want to do some work over the holiday period there is homework on Teams. Year 11, in particular, may be wanting to use this time to continue to revise.

Once again, I hope you have a lovely Christmas break.

Yours sincerely



Miss M Green
Head of Academy