



Email from Matthew Bartlett, Head Master

Friday 26th June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Senior School: Logistical changes for the start of term in August 2020

Welcome to our S1 Pupils

The summer is likely to be a time of many announcements from the Scottish Government not least with respect to education and how we will return in August. The College is already starting to spring back into life with buildings being recommissioned, rooms being made ready and from next week our cleaners and janitorial staff in moving furniture and deep cleaning our facilities. We welcome a large number of new students in all year groups.

The DFM's comments on Tuesday 23rd were welcome but are conditional on current trends in Covid-19 reduction persisting, and so we will also continue to develop all our contingency planning for the term ahead. Other countries have regressed to tighter social distancing measures after earlier relaxing guidelines, and we will assume this remains a possibility in Scotland. We will also continue to refine our plans in order to minimise social contact on a day-to-day basis at school. We recognise that keeping all our community safe is our first priority and there should be no compromises here.

This means that whether we are all back in Hill Street or we are following the model outlined to you with 2m distancing in place, there must be logistical changes at lunchtimes, break times, lesson transitions and during daily collection and pickup. In addition to this we will continue to implement our enhanced cleaning regimes and ongoing hygiene control.

Therefore I thought it was important to share with you our plans at this stage. Please be aware that these are subject to change and further improvement and we are aiming to have a final version with you not later than Friday 7th August. This is entirely dependent on Government advice and updates.

Drop off

No children should be on site before 8.30am. Drop off should be as swift as possible and there will be no parking or access to the playground areas with the exception of kindergarden parents who may use the top car park.

Pick up

This poses the biggest risk of transmitting infection and it is crucial that we can get this right and keep everyone safe. Please encourage your child to walk to you and avoid parking in Hill Street as traffic is likely to be busier when we return.

Lunches

All pupils should bring a packed lunch and their own water bottle which should be clearly labelled.

After School

Currently we are not able to run after school activities given limitations on travel, sport and group gatherings. This may change before August. The Library will not be open after school



and therefore pupils should leave the building at the normal end of school and will not be able to stay behind after school.

Saturday Sport

We are looking to provide sporting provision for Senior School on alternate Saturdays. We await guidance from the government and from sporting bodies as to what this can look like.

Uniform

Mrs Erskine has written to all parents and pupils about the uniform options and changes in the current situation.

INDUCTION MORNING FOR S1: Wednesday 12th August 2020

We are looking forward to welcoming our new S1 pupils on the morning of 12th August. This is confirmed and will be unaffected by any new government announcements. Pupils should be dropped off at the Sports Hall at our main site on Hill Street.

- 9am-11am
- Full uniform (blazer and tie are optional in the current situation)
- No school bags are needed but please bring your own water bottle (marked) and a snack

This is a great opportunity to meet your form class again, see the new timetable and meet staff. Further details will be sent out before 12th August.

Thursday 13th August

If we are running our 2m timetable, then our S1 will spend Thursdays at our playing fields facility at Millerston (Cumbernauld Road, just opposite the petrol station past Hoganfield Loch) with drop off from 8.30am and pick up between 3.35pm and 3.50pm latest

Friday 14th August

All S1 attend at normal start time at Hill Street

S1 will be in school all day for full weeks regardless of whether we are following the new 2m timetable or able to revert to our 'normal' timetable.

You will be updated about any changes in advance of the start of term

Break times

Morning Break

11am - all pupils stay in class. ELT in corridors to supervise toilet break.

Lunch Break

12.35 - 1.30pm - S5/6 will be allowed to go down into town if they wish or may use the Clavius Forum

12.40 - 1.30pm - S1/2

12.45 - 1.30pm - S3/4



1 year group on upper and lower pitches

1 year group on basketball pitch and area outside sports building

1 year group in Ref and Hall

Period 5 begins at 1.35 pm

One way system

There will be a marked one way system around the campus to ensure social distancing and to avoid a build up of pupils in any communal area

Visitors and Events

To reduce the risk of infection, the school is not open for visitors. Please note that this also includes parents at the current time. Please use phone or email and all enquiries will be dealt with timeously.

We have not cancelled events, but will respond to the latest safety guidelines as to what events can take place at any given time. The Sports Hall will allow us to have whole year assemblies and to consider socially distanced year group events.

Some events are still postponed and may be able to run for the new academic year

Schola, Music Lessons and School Transport

We are still awaiting guidance on these areas and anticipate being able to communicate with you by the end of July as to how we are allowed to proceed. We will also confirm arrangements for the Southside buses once the FM has given guidance on transport.

Update on our Depute (Academic Leadership)

John Anderson will be leaving us at the end of the Autumn Term 2020 (December 18th 2020) to take up the role of Rector of Jordanhill School. I am delighted for John personally and know that his time with us will have been important in shaping his effectiveness as a Head. Obviously we are sorry to see him leave but we wish him great success. I have appointed **James Cluckie** to take over the role of Depute (Academic Leadership). James has proven to be an exceptional leader, not least during the period of lockdown when he has been a mainstay of our academic provision in the Senior School. He also shows immense dedication to the faith life of the College not least as a Kairos Rector. His commitment to the College is unquestionable and I am delighted to have him as a member of the College Leadership Team from January 2021.

I realise that this is a long letter and indeed that despite its length there are still areas that are not fully answered. This is simply the consequence of constant change and updating. I will of course write further if any updates are received and will ensure that any last minute updates are provided through a fully updated version of this letter not later than 7th August. All updates can be found in the Covid19 section of our website under 'Returning to School' which is regularly updated.



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I do hope that you and your families are keeping safe and well

Kindest regards

Matthew Bartlett

Head Master



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GREAT THINGS HAPPEN IN THE GREEN BLAZER