



THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL

A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

London Road
Buckingham
MK18 1AT

Tel: 01280 812206
Fax: 01280 822525

Email: office@buckinghamsschool.org
Website: www.buckinghamsschool.org

Headteacher: Mr A McGinnes

04 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you with our Guidance for Full School Reopening and there are a few things that I would like to highlight:

Lateral Flow Testing

The whole school has now been tested for the first time, and I am delighted that the vast majority of students have attended for tests. So far, we have not had a positive test result. Ongoing test results will be important to the school, allowing us to react to issues that may affect the running of the school far sooner and far more precisely.

I would like to thank our testing team for the excellent efficiency in which tests have been conducted. As a parent, I can compare our systems with those that meant that my own son had a two and a half hour wait at his school yesterday!

Masks

In line with our original stance as a school and with subsequent clarifications from the Government, our stance on masks is as follows:

- We *insist* that students wear masks whenever indoors, unless they are sat at a desk, facing forwards, eating or otherwise instructed that they do not need to (eg in PE), however,
- We *strongly advise* our students to adhere to the Government recommendation to wear masks whenever indoors, including whilst sat at desks in lessons

Uniform

Thank you for the positive feedback about our compassion-based decision to suspend uniform until Easter. I will also stress that the feedback that questioned the decision was just as welcome – we are not above being challenged!

You will see in the attached guide that we have updated this stance, to explicitly state that students are welcome to wear full uniform, or whatever parts of their uniform that they have, if that is preferred. The same logic applies to PE uniform, too.

Sixth Form students are expected to attend school as normal, in business dress.

Examinations

Year 11 and Year 13 have had a painful time recently, and since the original Ofqual announcement, there has been a sense of limbo. We are working hard to develop our exact approach. I can confirm that:

- As of Monday 8th March, subject teachers will be able to tell students what aspects of their course they will be examined on

The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to Mrs K Bones at kbones@buckinghamsschool.org, if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.



Once the Senior Leadership Team have approved each subject's plans for awarding grades:

- On Wednesday 10th March, we will hold an assembly for Year 11 and Year 13 students, in which we will explain broadly how we will be awarding Teacher Assessed Grades
- From after the assembly, subject teachers will be able to explain exactly how their subject is awarding grades

We cannot even begin to explain how much we are all looking forward to welcoming all of our students into school on Monday! We hope our students have a wonderful weekend, and are raring to go on Monday when we see them

With my best wishes



Mr A McGinnes

Headteacher

aallen@buckinghamschool.org

The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to Mrs K Bones at kbones@buckinghamschool.org, if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.

