



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

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Dear Parent/Carer,

25th May 2021

It has been a very busy half term in school with a key focus being on students in years 11 – 13 being involved in a range of assessments and staff assessing and collating evidence. This is because formal external examinations for students in these year groups are not taking place this year. It has been a challenge to hear about future examination seasons.

As you are aware, the general operational guidance for schools has been recently updated and we have considered the implications of this for the school.

After half term, it has been agreed that students will remain in bubbles but they will now go to lessons in different parts of the school rather than remain in their one 'bubble' room. Therefore, years 7 – 9 will be in year group bubbles, rather than class bubbles. Year 10 remain in a year group bubble. Year 12 will remain in a year group bubble.

As students will be moving around to lessons in subject specialist rooms, new timetables will be printed for all students from Tuesday 8th June 2021. We will still be operating a 3 session day and the first week after half term is **Week A1**.

Uniform

After half term, students should have their blazers with them at all times. However, as the weather is likely to be warmer (we hope), they do not need to wear a blazer around the school. They must ensure that they wear either a plain uniform shirt with a blazer or the jumper with the blazer. They cannot wear the jumper without the blazer. Students must continue to abide by the uniform rules in school. They must wear school shoes and not trainers. Students in Years 7 – 9 will still come to school in PE kit on the days they have PE.

Jewellery and Make up

Students who have pierced ears may wear one pair of plain studs (one stud in each ear). There should not be stones in the earrings. Nose studs and other piercings are not permitted.

A wristwatch may be worn. (No smart watches).

A small religious symbol of faith may be worn around the neck on a chain under the shirt. Make up, including nail varnish/extensions or false eyelashes must not be worn by any student.

False nails and false eyelashes worn on a Friday or the last day of term will be sanctioned with a S3 unless it is a non- uniform day on the same day.

Mobile Phones

Students are not allowed to use these in school at any time. See below the sanction for repeated use of the mobile phone.

I would like to thank you for your support for the S2 detentions. After half term, S2 detentions (30 minutes) will be reinstated for after school. At least 24 hours' notice will be given of these.

An S2 in and out of class is issued when a student has failed to follow instructions by a member of staff. The member of staff will have given an S and an S1 before proceeding to an S2.

Examples that an S2 will be given for:

- Having a phone out and being told on 2 previous occasions that day to put the phone away. This is defiance in the Behaviour Charter.
- Homework not done.
- PE kit missing.
- Repeated reminder to be on task.

Face Coverings

The same guidance is in place in respect of the wearing of face coverings in school.

The start times will still be staggered:

Years 7 and 8 (start at 8.30am. In school by 8.25am)

Year 9 and 10 (start at 8.45am. In school by 8.40am)

Year 12 (start at 8.30 In school by 8.25)

The times for the end of the day will still be staggered:

Monday and Tuesday – Years 7 & 8 at 2.35pm. Years 9 and 10, 12 at 2.25pm

Wednesday and Thursday – Years 7 & 8 at 2.25pm. Years 9 and 10 at 2.35pm.

Year 12 finish at 2.35pm on Thursday only and finish at 2.25pm on Wednesday.

Friday – Years 7 & 8 at 2.15pm. Years 9, 10 and 12 at 2.25pm

Break and lunch time and areas

Students will still be in year group bubbles at break and lunch times:

Year Group	Break time	Lunch Time	Area
7	10.00am	12.20pm	Sports Hall
8	10.00am	12.20pm	Canteen
9	10.30am	12.55pm	Sports Hall
10	10.30am	12.55pm	Canteen
12	10.30am	12.55pm	6 th Form Area

A reminder that school finishes on Friday this week at 12.55pm for Year 10 and at 1.25pm for Years 7, 8, 9 and 12.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Brown
Head Teacher