



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

Headteacher Matthew Brown BA(Hons) DMS(Ed)

Blackfen School for Girls,
Blackfen Road,
Sidcup, Kent.
DA15 9NU
T: 020 8303 1887

E: admin@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk
www.blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk

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Dear parent/carer,

I am writing to you today due to the recent slight increase in Covid-19 cases amongst the Blackfen school community. The plan is to aim to reduce transmission, as far as possible, within and outside the school. I have been working with Public Health Bexley and with the London Coronavirus Response Cell (LCRC). They have recommended actions for the school to put in place. These are called amber actions.

As a result, with effect from Friday 19th November 2021, the following will be put in place.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 12

Students in these year groups will start school at the normal time (8.30am) but will finish at 2.30pm every day (lesson 5 will be 15 minutes shorter). This is to reduce overcrowding at the end of the day and on the buses. Students must go directly home and not hang around outside the school.

Students in Years 9 and 10

Students in these year groups will start school at the slightly later time (8.45am) but will finish school at the normal time (2.45pm). Lesson 1 will be 15 minutes shorter.

Students in Years 11 and 13

The school day for students in these year groups will remain as it is.

Other points to note:

- Students are advised to wear a face covering. However, for students in year 7 the wearing of a face covering in lessons, at Community time and in corridors, is mandatory. If a student is exempt, they must wear an exempt lanyard. These are available to collect from their respective student support officer. Please make sure students have face coverings as we only have a limited emergency supply on site.
- In dance and drama for years 7 – 9 students, theory lessons will take place and there will be no practical work. Practical work in technology, science and other subjects will continue.
- Windows and doors will be opened to ensure ventilation. Some classrooms have CO2 monitors in them to monitor levels. Staff will be opening windows and doors fully between lessons. In addition, the only indoor area available at break and lunch will be the canteen as at present. There are shelters in other parts of the school. With this in mind, students should wear warm clothing, as per the recent communication on this, and should have a

black or blue coat (years 7 – 11) for outdoor wear. The library will also be open on the specified days.

- Students should continue to test regularly. We still have a supply of lateral flow testing kits and we ask students to collect these if they have run out of kits at home. Unfortunately, we don't have an endless supply of these so please search at home for any previously distributed.
- You must continue to follow all the guidance with regards to what to do if your child has symptoms, what to do if your child tests positive and what to do if your child is a close contact of someone who has tested positive.
- If your child tests positive, please report this to the school.
- There will be no face to face assemblies and year meetings in school.
- The library remains open after school.
- On the day that students have a PE lesson, they should come to school wearing their PE kit.
- All revision classes after school will run as usual.
- The learning zone will still be open for year 11 students after school.
- Outside PE clubs after school will still take place. For other clubs, students should check with the member of staff.
- The library will be open at break and lunch as per present arrangements.

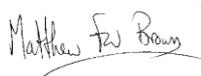
I am reporting to the local public health team on a daily basis and we are monitoring the situation.

All the measures above are in place from Friday 19th November 2021 to Friday 3rd December 2021 inclusive. During the second week, the situation will be reviewed and decisions will be taken on next steps. I will write to you again during that week.

I realise that this is a very worrying time for you and for your family. It is important that everyone plays their part in aiming to continue to reduce transmission.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support. Please contact my PA, Miss Rogers using the admin email address (admin@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk) if you have any further questions or queries.

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Brown
Head Teacher