

SEN

- **Who do I contact re SEN issues:**
Ms Cascarino is our SENCO and Deputy Headteacher. Please email on our admin@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk and mark for the attention of SCA.
- **What is being put in place for students with extra needs?**
Our SEN Team have been sent information from most primary schools re your daughters needs. We try to include a TA (Teaching Assistant) in as many classes as possible where the students require support. If your daughter has an EHCP then there will be a TA in her lessons. Where your daughter has a specific need then her teachers will be able to access this information together with information on how to support her with her learning condition.

Uniform

- **Do I need a Blackfen school bag/ Blackfen Pe Bag. What to put in school bag.**
A Blackfen Pe bag is part of the kit. It is a really good way for the girls to keep their kit together. Just please make sure ALL kit and bag is labelled with her Name/Surname
School bag is up to the student. Please ensure that it is big enough to carry the days books (5 lessons a day) and remember that lessons can have exercise books that are A4 and well as more A5 size. She will also need to have her pencil case/calculator/bottle or water/reading book/ lunch etc etc in it.
- **Regulation school skirt?**
The girls wear a regulation school skirt available from the uniform shops. They have 2 kick pleats front and back with a drop-waist section. To ensure that your daughter is wearing the correct uniform it is best to buy from the uniform shop.
- **What is the Pe footwear? Will she need the shin pads?**
The Pe list was sent home in the packs. She will need trainers for lessons. Shin pads are recommended for her football lessons.
- **What colour is best for the jumper/cardigan**
Your daughter can choose navy or red, but they must be uniform as these have Blackfen embroidered on them. Which is the most popular currently? Maybe navy?
- **What concessions are there for Muslim girls re uniform? Can they wear long skirts? Headscarf?**
Yes this is confirmed in the parent handbook. Your daughter may wear a long navy skirt and a uniform coloured headscarf (navy/red). There is also the option of uniform trousers which are available from the uniform shops.
- **Where do I get the Pe kit from?**

There was a flyer from Macron in the pack. Bellgrove Road, Welling or on-line

- **What school shoes?**

Black leather or leather-look shoes. So no trainers, canvas, sandals, boots etc etc Please note that kickers 'kick hi classic teen' are seen as shoes for uniform purposes.

Tutoring

- **How are form groups going to work in Sept? How many per form? How many in a year?**

There are 45 tutor groups with more in the sixth form.

As a school we are following Government guidelines and so tutor groups are being reviewed in their current vertical format.

- **What are the numbers with the letter in the Tutor Group?**

There are 5 Communities and 9 forms with a community. So if you are G5 then you are Green 5. There is no difference between numbers they merely denote the number in the community.

- **Is vertical tutoring being scrapped in Sept – perm or temp?**

We are following Government Guidelines regarding bubbles and as little mixing as possible. Any changes to the current Tutor structure will only be temporary. Further details will be sent to you by Mr Brown once plans are finalised.

Summer Work

- **Where should the Summer Challenges be uploaded? Where can I download it?**

These are saved in Files. Class materials. Summer Challenge

They can be downloaded directly. Don't forget that the Maths and History tasters should also be completed as will be required in sept.

In September your daughter will be members of her class Teams. She will need to update her Summer Challenges there.

- **Is there a summer reading book?**

Not specifically. However if you want to look at our booklet on reading across the curriculum then this can be found on the website:

Home Study: Reading across the Curriculum (document can be found at the bottom of the page)

Teaching

- **How are children being grouped**

Usually we would set your daughters in Maths and Science and have a higher group for other subjects and then mixed ability for the rest. The year group is split into two halves with four classes on each half. This year with no conformity of data, we are not able to do this. Therefore all groups in all subjects will be mixed ability.

- **How many girls in each class?**

There will be approximately 30 students in each class

September

- **Virtual Zoom mtg on 10th Sept. Confirm start date/time**
Second Induction event. You will be sent a Zoom link. This is planned to start at 6pm on Thursday 10th September. Mr Neil will reconfirm this in due course.
- **When do Y7 start? Are they in school everyday**
Our term starts for students on Friday 4th September. Our usual school days starts at 8.30. Government Guidelines state that all students will be in school from September and planning is currently underway to ensure that this takes place. Mr Brown will write to you shortly to confirm arrangements for Year 7 in September.
- **When do the girls find out their form tutor?**
When your daughter starts in September she will get her timetable and find out her Tutor on her first day.
- **What is the normal school finish time?**
School usually finishes at 3.10pm every day.
- **When do I find out my language**
When you get your timetable you will know if you have French or Spanish. We try as far as possible to accommodate requests but unfortunately we don't usually have an equal 50/50 split on requests so some will not get their preference. Apologies this cannot be altered.
- **What will the provisions be for practical lessons in Sept**
As a School we are following guidelines to this. Our paramount is concern for the safety of our school community both students and staff. Mr Brown will be writing home shortly to confirm teaching for September

Wisepay

- **Wisepay – if no to biometric – do they use a pin or will they have a card?**
Your daughter will be given a 4digit pin which she will need to remember. There is no card.
- **Should we already have Wisepay details? What is the organisation code?**
Code: 66447546
You will have received details of Wisepay at the same time as details of how to log into Teams in the very first email back in June

Medication

- **Does my daughter carry her own meds or leave it in reception ?**

Your daughter should bring her medication (named & with the official dose) to the school office each day. Please remember if she has an epipen then an up-to-date pen should be left in the school office AT ALL TIMES (2 spares are needed for all trips)

General

- **Are there any pre-school or after school classes**
In a 'normal' school year we run after school sports clubs, homework club in the library etc. With the new Government guidelines this will mean that this will unlikely be possible in September
- **Are the girls allowed packed lunch or is it just school canteen?**
They will be able to have either at school. If they use the canteen then they will need to have funds in their Wisepay account.
- **Parents eve for y7 – the date?**
Apologies – this was my mistake, it should have said Thursday 29th April
- **Which model of calculator do they need?**
The latest Scientific calculator. The Faculty Leader of Maths advises this is a Casio fx-83GTX (My advice is to get a Casio as then everyone will have something similar & they will work the same way. 'Looks like a Casio', usually works differently!)
- **Will there be any opportunities to meet over the summer?**
As a School we are giving out staff a well-deserved break so that we are ready for our new challenges in September. This therefore means that there will not be another chance to meet up before our September start.
- **Is there help and support for children that have never visited Blackfen?**
Every student is a member of a Community and has a dedicated Student Support Officer that work with them. Our student support Officers are not teaching staff and so can be contacted during lesson time. They are a very friendly group of staff who care for their Communities so will be happy to help.
- **Are they able to see all classes before starting school**
Your daughter will get her Timetable in September and then she will know her classes and when they are on.

My advice:

Homework

- All students are asked to write this into their School Planners with the dates this is due. They are not always the best at this – COMPLETE HMWK THE NIGHT IT IS SET.

Uniform

- Don't let your daughter tell you that 'everyone else wears it'. If it is not in our uniform list then it's probably not a true statement so rather than being asked to buy the correct item – PLEASE RING AND CHECK

Laptops/tablets/phones

- These last few months have shown us all just how important technology has become. On the information sent back to school you have already said whether your daughter has access to a computer/laptop/tablet at home. Please let the school know via her Student Support Officer IN SEPTEMBER if she has no laptop etc or wifi at home

Organisation

- This is one of the major new skills that your daughters will be learning. Get her to pack her bag THE NIGHT BEFORE, (by all means check it but GET HER TO DO IT). Have her lunch ready to just take from the fridge, check she has her conduct card and planner as well as door keys, pe kit. Get her into that ROUTINE as soon as possible.

Transport

- Obviously Government guidelines are to walk, cycle or be driven to school. If this is absolutely not an option and she will need to travel by bus then she may want to practice the journey before Sept with a face covering and a plastic bag to put this in if it is not disposable. It goes without saying that Blackfen Road will be VERY busy if the whole school is driving so walk or cycle as far as possible or maybe drop off at a distance so that she can walk the final part.

September

- In these unprecedented times we are planning for the whole school to be back in the safest way possible for all members of our community. Mr Brown will be writing to every family as soon as our plans are finalised. **Should you not receive this letter, please also check the website as ALL details and letters will be posted here.**

