

Start of term update - 2

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of the first full week back to school, we would like to say how resilient our students have been. With so much uncertainty in the press and with all of the changes that have been enforced, all schools were concerned how students would cope. It is great to inform you that the majority of students have settled well and have got used to the organisational systems now in place. We have been into all classrooms over the week and have been impressed by the

Working in an educational setting is about nurturing and developing the lives of young people, and to finally have face-to-face engagement with our students has been re-invigorating.

Despite the alternative transition arrangements, the Year 7 students have made a great start and have settled well. Year 12 numbers have increased by 50% this year and we are delighted to see so many of our amazing students return to the 6th form.

As stated previously there have had to be lots of changes to systems and structures at school due to current COVID restrictions. Every school has their own logistical challenges and our own split site set up has certainly tested our strategic and operational planning. We are pleased to say however that after two days the majority of new measures have worked and students have responded in a very mature way. Any changes following our internal reviews will be communicated to students and parents/carers.

Obviously, we have staggered start times and we request that students only arrive at school for either:

- ***Breakfast club (8.00am-8.25am starting Wednesday 9th September) or***
- ***5 minutes before their first lesson***

Uniform and equipment

Again, this has been a very positive element to the start of term. Students have returned to school looking immaculate and fully prepared for learning. Thank you to all parents/carers for working with us to maintain our high standards.

Social Media

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COVID-19:

What to do if you or a member of your household becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell:

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, however mild, self-isolate for at least 10 days from when your symptoms started. You should arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID19 (see information in the link below). Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

If you are not experiencing symptoms but have tested positive for COVID-19, self-isolate for at least 10 days, starting from the day the test was taken. If you develop symptoms during this isolation period, restart your 10-day isolation from the day you developed symptoms.

After 10 days, if you still have a temperature you should continue to self-isolate and seek medical advice. You do not need to self-isolate after 10 days if you only have a cough or loss of sense of smell or taste, as these symptoms can last for several weeks after the infection has gone. See the ending isolation section in the link below for more information.

If you live with others, all other household members need to stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the household became ill or if they do not have symptoms, from the day their test was taken. If anyone else in the household starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for at least 10 days from when their symptoms appear, regardless of what day they are on in their original 14-day isolation period. The ending isolation section in the link below has more information.

If you have symptoms, try and stay as far away from other members of your household as possible. It is especially important to stay away from anyone who is clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable with whom you share a household.

The full guidance for households, including how to arrange a test, is here:

<https://www.gov.uk/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronaviruscovid-19-infection>

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If you would like clarification regarding any school matters, please do not hesitate to get in contact via communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk

Thank you once again for your support and have a lovely weekend.

Mr Fitzpatrick
Executive Headteacher

Mr Roberts
Head of School