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20<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

I am writing this letter to you as we start week three of the term. We have had a very calm and productive start to a new term that feels very much like the way we begin a school year before the pandemic- something, which is great to say to you all.

I have been very impressed with the behaviour and attitudes of pupils as they get used to moving around school after the end of bubbles. In lessons, we see pupils working hard, following routines and keeping high expectations of them. Upholding our values of humanity, equality, aspiration is an important part of our positive school culture and it is very pleasing to see pupils upholding these values in lessons, during lunchtimes and when they move around school.

There are a few messages I would like to share with you:

[Open Events on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021](#)

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all parents of Year 6 and Year 11 students to **our annual secondary and sixth form open evening.**

The event will take place **on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 4pm until 6:30pm.**

During the evening there will be an opportunity to meet pupils and staff across all subject areas of the school and experience the Waverley learning environment.

For Year 6 students and parents/carers, there will be two short presentations by the secondary principal at 5pm and 6pm.

For Year 11 students and parents/carers, there will be 2 short presentations by the head of sixth form at 4:45 pm and 5:45pm.

For Year 6 students and parents/carers we will also be holding an **open morning on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Tours will be available every half an hour between 9am and 12pm** to enable you to experience Waverley during a typical school day.

[Virtual Open Event and School Tour](#)

We also have a virtual website full of information about the school including a tour, seeing examples of lessons in progress and frequently asked parental questions.

The link: <https://www.onlineopenevening.co.uk/waverleyschool>

If you have any questions about year 7 and 12 enrolment for September 2022, please email the enquiry team on [enquiry@waverley.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@waverley.bham.sch.uk) and the team will ensure that the most appropriate member of staff answers your query.

## School Behaviour Policy

At Waverley School we recognise the importance of promoting and ensuring positive behaviour throughout all year groups. A positive behaviour culture within school builds the foundations for high quality teaching and learning and secures successful outcomes for our pupils. Please note in line with the Waverley School behaviour policy that a same day Reflection Time (detention) can be issued. Reflection Time is a sanction given to pupils who fail to meet the expectation and therefore may be required to stay in school for up to one hour on the day of receiving the consequence. Waverley School recognises the importance of good communication and building positive relationships between school and families. The school is in the process of organising a Parent App that will deliver notifications to all families informing them of their child's progress, but also any sanctions received throughout each day. Families will be informed in due course when the Parent App has been finalised and is live. Please note at present families will not be informed if their son/daughter receives a Reflection Time sanction directly from the school, however pupils are given the opportunity to inform parents/carers if required from the pastoral office.

## Punctuality to School

Punctuality to school is very important, as indeed it is in all work places. All pupils must be on the school site by 8:25am, ready for the morning line up and entry. If a pupil is late to school (after 8:30am), unless parents and families have communicated to us any exceptional circumstances, pupils receive a reflection (detention).

## Covid-19 and vigilance

Despite the unlocking during the summer, as a school we are still following all protocols required of us. To this end, I am sharing with you below some information that the government and local authorities have made available to the public.

## And finally...

I will write to you soon with updates and messages. Thank you for all your support during 2020-21. I hope that the school year continues without the disruption of the pandemic that we have experienced over the last two years.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs A Lloyd  
Principal  
Secondary and Sixth Form Phases

## **Letter Appendix:**

### **Covid-19: A Summary Guide from the Government for Pupils, Parents, Families and Staff- September 2021**

**Also located here:**

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2021/08/24/back-to-school-what-you-need-to-know>

**There are three key changes:**

#### **1. Mixing and 'bubbles'**

Keeping pupils or students in year group or classroom bubbles to reduce mixing is no longer a requirement.

#### **2. Tracing close contacts**

Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace. Education settings are no longer expected to undertake contact tracing.

#### **3. Face coverings**

Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff, and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. Pupils, staff and visitors can wear face coverings by choice if they wish.

#### **So, what will stay the same?**

Coronavirus has not gone away so there will still be a need for schools, pupils and students to follow basic measures to avoid the spread of the virus:

1. Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within schools.
2. Ensuring good hygiene including frequent and thorough hand cleaning and the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
3. Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes.
4. Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.
5. Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

## The start of term

Our priority is to ensure settings are able to deliver high-quality, face-to-face education to all pupils.

## What if there are a number of cases in one school or college?

If there are a number of cases in one school or college, there is advice in place so teachers and staff know what to do.

Schools and colleges will do everything they can to minimise the impact on education and attendance, so might decide to introduce measures like:

- Increased testing
- Temporarily reintroducing face coverings
- Restricting attendance as a short-term measure and only as a last resort.

More information on the guidance we have issued to education settings is available on our website: [Contingency framework: education and childcare settings](#).

## What if someone tests positive or has symptoms? Do they need to isolate?

Self-isolate straight away and get a [PCR test \(a test that is sent to the lab\) on GOV.UK](#) as soon as possible if you have any of these 3 symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

You should also self-isolate straight away if:

- you have tested positive for COVID-19 either according to a PCR test or a lateral flow device (LFD) test – this means you have the virus. If you get a positive LFD test you should book a PCR test. A negative PCR test will override a positive LFD test.
- someone you live with has symptoms or tested positive (unless you are not required to self-isolate – see below if this applies to you)
- you have been told to self-isolate following contact with someone who tested positive – [find out what to do if you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app](#).

Pupils should only self-isolate if they have symptoms or if they get a positive PCR or Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test.

If they develop symptoms or get a positive LFD test they should book a PCR test. A positive PCR test cannot be overridden. If a pupil is asked to get a PCR test as a result of contact with a positive case they may continue to attend education until they get the result of their PCR back.

## And what will happen for people who have been in contact with positive cases?

Individuals are **not required** to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated (2 vaccines)
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. They do not need to isolate while awaiting the PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal.

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If none of the above applies, people should self-isolate [as per the instructions from NHS Test and Trace](#).