



7 July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of this extremely challenging year for our community, we can still reflect on many highlights which I have referred to in our end of year newsletter, which you will receive imminently. However, as I am sure you are aware, the government has recently released guidance on how all students will be able to return to school in September. I will ensure you receive a full letter as to how this will happen before the end of term.

The guidance sets out the two overarching principles that schools should use when ensuring that the risk of transmission of Covid-19 is minimised. The first being how schools can maintain minimal contact between groups of students and ensure these groups (“bubbles”) can be kept separate. The second being how schools can ensure distance is kept between individuals. Both options should be central to our planning. Furthermore, the flexibilities given to parents in the last 3 months over attendance will be withdrawn so you should be preparing your child for their return. At this stage I would ask parents to think very carefully about travel restrictions and the booking of holidays to countries from which UK citizens are required to quarantine when returning. The government does not give schools flexibility to authorise these holidays if a child ends up missing school in September as a result of quarantine. What is clear already is that whilst we will aim to have as normal a return as possible, there are some key points that I would like to clarify around behaviour, uniform and equipment particularly.

The government have asked that schools comply with a number of behaviour expectations from students, including sitting in rows (facing the front), abiding by social distancing guidance (including no touching), equipment, specialist teaching rooms, minimising student movement, ensuring students are able to follow strict routines around sanctions, bubbles, staggered breaks/lunches and travel to and from school and many more things that we have to take into account. Over the next few days we will be spending significant time considering what approaches we can take that will enable our students to return as safely as possible.

Below I have set out our expectations for the return to school in September regarding uniform and equipment. While this re-establishes our existing policies and expectations which most students are wonderful at following, it is important to recognise that if the more specific details of our planning are to be followed it is vital that these basic expectations are met.

Therefore, with regard to uniform, I appreciate that some students have been offered the opportunity to come into school, in mufti, over the last few months, however, this will not be the case in September and I will expect all students to be in the correct uniform. This includes abiding by our rules around leather shoes, hair colour, nail varnish and piercings. I need to make you aware that if your son/daughter arrives to the Academy in inappropriate uniform in September then **they will be sent home to change immediately**. For a full breakdown of what is acceptable uniform, or not, please see our website.

Principal: Mr Mark Avoth

The Bourne Academy, Hadow Road, Bournemouth, BH10 5HS | Tel. 01202 528554 | admin@thebourneacademy.com

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The Academy's uniform supplier is **CJI Clothing; 886 Wimborne Road, Moordown, BH9 2DR. Tel: 01202 513387**

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation CJI's have had to put several measures in place to ensure staff and customer safety;

- Store opening hours have been reduced to 10am - 3pm Monday to Friday. They are hoping to extend their opening hours during the summer holidays. Please contact the shop using the above phone number to confirm their latest opening times.
- A maximum of 2 customers at a time are currently allowed in the shop and must social distance appropriately
- Staff will be wearing PPE to minimise risk
- Customers are unable to try on items of clothing to minimise any potential spread of the virus
- Staff will hold items of clothing up to the child to estimate sizing
- Only card payments will be accepted.

CJI Clothing is encouraging parents to order online. Where the value of an order is over £50 then delivery will be free. There is also the option to use a Click and Collect service. The CJI Cricket shop next to CJI Clothing will be open to collect items ordered this way as well as taking returns and exchanging sizes.

Please take this communication as formal notice of sending students home should their uniform not comply with our policy.

With regards to equipment, the government guidance is clear and matches our own expectations. All year groups must have, as a minimum, the following equipment:

- Black pen
- Green pen
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- 15cm ruler
- Pencil case

Yr 9 upwards should also have a **scientific calculator**.

It is recommended that students in Years 7 and 8 have a calculator of some sort. Use of calculators on mobiles phones is not permitted. For an extensive list of what is and is not acceptable, please see our website.

It is even more important this year that students are ready to learn upon arrival at the Academy, that uniform is correct and that your child has in their possession the equipment listed above. **We will NOT be able to lend equipment or uniform to students.**

Your support in ensuring these key areas are actioned will be greatly appreciated and will go a long way in helping the Academy to adhere to the strict guidance that has been issued by the government and will help us to keep your child safe when we return in September.

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As a result of all of the above, I ask for your patience whilst we produce a thorough and workable plan with the relevant risk assessments alongside this. We will share all of this with you in due course and I would hope to have something detailed towards the end of this week.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards

**Mr M Avoth,
Principal**

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