



BENSHAM MANOR *School*

Ecclesbourne Road, Croydon CR7 7BN

T: 0208 684 0116 E: theoffice@benshammanor.com W: www.benshammanor.co.uk

Headteacher : Mrs Fiona Robinson MA NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Kirstie Byrne B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

24/02/2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well.

I would like to begin this letter by taking the opportunity to thank you all so much for having faith in us as a school to look after your child safely. Attendance has been very good and all staff were absolutely delighted to get back to teaching your children. We are now three weeks into term and I have been so impressed with how well the students have settled back into school life. Students are managing the new routines exceptionally well. Staff are teaching the full curriculum offer and our therapy team have begun all therapy sessions. The key message for pupils is hands, face, space - wash hands, don't touch their face and keep a space between them and others.

We started some after school club sessions this week - Year 7 Football Club, Year 7 Lego Therapy (now full), Year 7 French Club, Year 10 Sensory Sports Club, Year 10 Football Club and Post 16 Social Skills Club. We have a number of clubs on offer across all year groups (please see the letter regarding clubs which was sent out last week) and will offer the full range of clubs once we have enough student uptake. If you have already indicated your preference for a club then we have that on file and you do not need to contact us again. Please only contact the office if you would like your child to take part in a club and have yet to let us know.

From Monday 28th September 2020, I am asking that all students come to school wearing their PE kit on the days which they have PE. Please refer to your child's timetable.

We remain a no-visitor site except in exceptional circumstances. Annual reviews of Education, Health and Care Plans will go ahead when due but will be done via telephone and email. Parent/Carer evening will also go ahead remotely on Monday the 19th of October. You will be able to book a time slot with your child's form tutor via telephone. You will not be able to talk to individual teachers as you have done in the past. More information to follow.

If your child is currently in Year 11, Croydon Council will have asked you about your choices for Post 16 education. All Year 11 students will receive a Croydon Post 16 prospectus in the coming days which highlights the options available for your child in Croydon. Most colleges are now doing virtual tours and open evenings so please look in the brochure for more information. If you need further support please contact your child's form tutor.



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We are supporting the 'Variety the Children's Charity' by fundraising to help this charity at this unusual time. We, as a school, have benefitted from them on many occasions. We are having a 'Sunshine Day' on Friday 2nd October, pupils wear a piece of yellow clothing if they have it, if not mufti can be worn. Please send in a contribution of £1.

I have been asked to circulate some information for parents and carers from the Department of Education regarding Covid 19 symptoms in children. Please ensure you take the time to read it.

The £5 termly charge for Food Technology/Lifeskills Cooking is now due. Please pay via the Kidwizz app.

Please remember to return the medical forms that were sent home. This is to ensure that our records are up to date. Also, it is important that you let the office know if your child is unwell and will not be attending school. You must call the office or email the office before 9am on the first day of your child's absence. If the absence is for an extended period of time, please keep the office updated with a likely return date.

If your work or benefit circumstances have changed in recent times, it is worthwhile checking with the school office to see if your entitlement to free school meals has changed. Please give the office a call and they will be happy to help you.

The end of day arrangements are working very well. Just a gentle reminder that if you collect your child from school you must be here by 2.45pm. Lateness can be very unsettling for the children. Additionally, as Autumn is here and the weather has changed please ensure that you send your child to school with a coat.

Finally, we have a Parent Governor Vacancy available. If you are the parent or carer of a child who currently attends Bensham Manor school you are welcome to apply. You do not need any specific qualifications, just lots of enthusiasm and a willingness to support the school. A letter has gone home with each child today.

Please keep safe and well.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Robinson