

BURSAR: ADRIAN P BOWCHER MBA FCIB DIPFS

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DC
DEAN
CLOSE

FOUNDATION

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21st May 2020

Dear Parents,

I do hope you are all safe and well and, at least, enjoying this beautiful weather.

Whilst the situation is still uncertain, all of our schools and nurseries are preparing a detailed plan to ensure a safe return to a partial opening in the schools and a full opening in our five nurseries.

The planning is complex, not least because many of the goalposts are still moving daily, and I commend the Heads, Managers and Leadership teams for their diligence and professionalism in working with an ever changing regulatory landscape but still creating solutions. Their commitment to the education of all of your children is very impressive.

Fees

In a previous letter I announced the variation of 20% to the Day fee. I have decided that this will remain unchanged until the end of the Trinity Term. No adjustment will be made to the Day fee for any pupils returning to school this term.

As a principle, we have chosen continuity of education over maximising savings and have committed to keeping our teachers fully operational to provide as much teaching and learning as possible. We have made good use of the Government's furlough scheme where we can but the loss of income from the reduced fees has dwarfed any savings made to date. With careful planning and decision-making this will be manageable in the medium to long term and I would like to record my thanks to all of you who have paid the Trinity Term bills promptly. I would also send a big thank you to those parents who chose to pay the 100% anyway, we have redirected those extra funds to support other parents under significant financial pressure. Should you still have outstanding fees I urge you to settle your account without delay.

If that is proving difficult, please call either of the two following senior Finance Managers as soon as possible to discuss any outstanding debt.

Andrew Golding Finance Manager / Internal Auditor Tel. 01242 258029 (Mon – Wed) (agolding@deanclose.org.uk)

Mathew Madeley Finance Controller Tel. 01242 258029
(mmadeley@deanclose.org.uk)

Notice



Our attention is now firmly fixed on the year to come and to help with budget planning, we now need to be certain about how many pupils we will have in the school in September. I announce now that the variation whereby we allowed you to give a rolling notice if it was possible that your child would leave at the end of Trinity term, with no fees in Lieu of Notice becoming payable, will end on the 31st May 2020. Whilst we are confident about the general picture, we are now at the stage where detail is required before we commit to certain expenditure. For example, sometimes just one or two children can make the difference between having two classes or three. With the exception of the Upper Sixth, if you know that your son or daughter will not be returning to Dean Close in September, please confirm this by 31st May 2020.

After that date the usual full term's notice will be required. We will write individually to those who have given notice to ask them to firm up their intention.

I do wish you all well for the half term holiday.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Bowcher', written in a cursive style.

Adrian Bowcher
Bursar