

Dean Close School

Pastoral and Health information

September 2020

Pastoral

Significant changes have been made to the pastoral structure of Dean Close to reflect the requirements of social distancing and to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.

Hopefully you will already be aware of the new Tree House structure:

Tree House and location	Housemaster or Housemistress (HsM)	Year(s) and status	Email address
Alder (Hatherley)	Mrs Milne KEM	4 th (Co-ed) Day	alder@deanclose.org.uk
Beech (Dale)	Mr Price BPP	R (Co-ed) Day	beech@deanclose.org.uk
Elm (Mead)	Mrs Montgomery CHSM	5 th (Co-ed) Day	elm@deanclose.org.uk
Hawthorn (Field)	Mr Montgomery PSM	L6 th (Co-ed) Day	hawthorn@deanclose.org.uk
Juniper (Old Mead)	Mr Milne AGAM	U6 th (Co-ed) Day	juniper@deanclose.org.uk
Lime (Fawley)	Mrs Feltham CMF	4 th & U6 th (G) Boarding	lime@deanclose.org.uk
Oak (Shelburne)	Mrs Ledlie KML	R & L6 th (G) Boarding	oak@deanclose.org.uk
Pine (Turner)	Mrs Allen CA	5 th (G) Boarding	pine@deanclose.org.uk
Rowan (Brook Court)	Mr Pitt JMP	R & L6 th (B) Boarding	rowan@deanclose.org.uk
Willow (Tower)	Mr Poxon BSP	4 th & 5 th (B) Boarding	willow@deanclose.org.uk
Yew (Gate)	Mr Wilkes MWW	U6 th (B) Boarding	yew@deanclose.org.uk

The new arrangements will maintain the integrity of year group bubbles whilst allowing pupils to socialise with some of their peers.

Because of the new structure, tutors will become even more important. Junior pupils (4th, Remove & 5th) will be tutored in small groups as usual by the tutors they would have had in their original house. This means that when we are able to revert to normal, the pupils will already have established a good relationship with their tutor and so will have continuity of care.

Sixth form will continue to have individual tutoring which will again provide continuity.

If you have any queries or concerns about the pastoral care of your child your first contact should be with the Housemaster or Housemistress via the email address given above. House parents will ensure that they remain in regular contact with one another so that there is continuity of care when pupils revert back to normal houses.

All staff have been made aware that some pupils may struggle with the return to school after such a long time away. If you are concerned about how your child is settling in and readjusting please do get in touch.

Health Care

A comprehensive review of the health care provision across the Foundation was undertaken prior to the Coronavirus pandemic. Despite obvious logistical difficulties extensive changes to our provision have been made for this academic year.

Health Care at Dean Close

A new system to meet the changing needs of pupils, parents and staff

- There is a completely new team in the Health Centre with a new approach
- The focus will be on health and fitness to reflect the pupil body whilst recognising that some pupils do need medical support from time to time
- Health Centre building is a central hub for health care with centralised communication between pupils, parents and school staff
- The staff will maintain a proactive approach and be more visible throughout the school.

Wellbeing

A new full time wellbeing lead has been appointed to replace the counselling service from Gloucestershire Counselling Services.



Mrs Cathy Cook is an Integrative Therapeutic Counsellor. She has specialist training in counselling children and young people and is passionate about their wellbeing. A former senior counsellor at 'Teens in Crisis' and school counsellor at a local grammar school, Cathy has also operated a private practice, seeing clients of all ages.

- Wellbeing has replaced counselling to give a more positive feel to the service
- Individual sessions will be offered as well as group and one off sessions
- Mrs Cook will work closely with the HsM team to offer advice and support for mental health issues
- Mrs Cook will maintain the highest levels of confidentiality expected from a counsellor
- Appointments can be booked via wellbeing@deanclose.org.uk.

Physiotherapy

A full time physiotherapist has been appointed to provide support to sports teams as well as the whole pupil body.



Following a severe crash off of a double black ski jump, Jonathan Watkin's recovery led not only to regaining full fitness, but also a calling to help others recover from their own injuries. Since then his career has seen him work in professional football, club rugby, with GB athletes and at international summer games as a Physiotherapist.

- Mr Watkins will be based in the Health Centre but do much of his work in the Sports Hall and Fitness Suite
- His focus will be to enable a return to fitness and exercise
- He will work closely with the Sports and PE departments as well as the pastoral team and parents
- He can be contacted via physio@deanclose.org.uk
- It is hoped that in the near future we will be able to offer private appointments and help in the training of undergraduate physios.

Nursing

A new nurse has been appointed to oversee the medical care of pupils and liaise with other health care professionals.



Mrs Camilla Walter (OD) moved to Cheltenham from London in 2018. She is a dual-trained nurse (adult and paediatric) with extensive experience in school nursing. Camilla has a strong focus on the quality of care that she gives by being approachable and friendly towards pupils and their parents.

- Mrs Walter will be the main point of contact for the triage of pupils
- She will work closely with the doctors from Overton Park Surgery and other medical professionals
- She will regularly attend HsM meetings and advise the wider pastoral team
- Mrs Walter will both work closely with and help to train the house matrons
- She can be contacted confidentially via nurse@deanclose.org.uk.

Health Centre Manager

The role of Health Centre manager has been created to ensure that all parts of the medical and pastoral teams work closely together and are fully informed of any medical issues concerning pupils.



Mrs Danielle DeVuyst is originally from Alberta, Canada. She is a qualified nurse holding registration in Canada and the UK, with clinical experience in A&E and research, and is a Master of Public Health candidate (University of Alberta) with specialism in health policy and management. Danielle has previously worked with children at an international school in Paris.

- Mrs DeVuyst is responsible for the organisation and management of the Health Centre monitoring both the treatment and recovery of pupils
- She will also work closely with the wider pastoral team to ensure smooth and comprehensive health care provision

- She will coordinate all medical appointments and keep the necessary people informed including parents/guardians
- She can be contacted via health@deanclose.org.uk.

Health Care Assistants

The three Health Care Assistants replace the Health Centre matron and overnight supervisors. They have a varied role across the Cheltenham site and are there to support the medical and pastoral support of all pupils. They will be based in the Health Centre but will be seen across the site and in the houses supporting the matrons



Mrs Deborah Crawford Poxon is well known to the Dean Close community as she is married to Mr Poxon the Housemaster of Tower, and has been living and working here for 5 years. She has been invaluable during her time at DCS particularly working in the Health Centre.



Mrs Sophie Story has enjoyed two different career streams, as a health professional and in education. Recently she has worked at a number of schools in the UK and Germany as a teaching assistant and librarian. Before that she was a senior physiotherapist again in the UK and Germany.



Ms Kim Hazlewood worked for the NHS Ambulance service for many years before furthering her career in the private rapid response sector covering all sorts of events and frontline work as an Emergency Care Assistant. She is used to working in a variety of medical environments and keeping a cool head in a crisis.

- The Health Care Assistants will look after poorly children in the Health Centre and assist the matrons with those who may be in house
- They will assist on match days will first aid and treatment
- The will take pupils to hospital and other appointments in conjunction with the house matrons
- They will provide overnight care if needed
- They can be contacted via health@deanclose.org.uk.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Health Centre team will help the wider school stay alert for signs of Coronavirus and help with the identification and care of those exhibiting symptoms.

NHS guidance identifies the main symptoms of COVID-19 as:

- **A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)**
- **A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)**

- **A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.**

Day Pupils

- Parents/guardians of day pupils are responsible for ensuring that pupils do not come to school exhibiting symptoms of Coronavirus
- We request that day pupils are checked for symptoms, including a raised temperature, daily before the journey to school commences
- If a pupil starts to exhibit symptoms during the school day they will be assessed by the Health Centre and parents/guardians contacted if COVID is suspected
- We do not have the facilities to isolate symptomatic day pupils on site for more than a few hours so parents/guardians will be expected to collect their child promptly
- Parents/guardians are responsible for organising COVID testing although the Health Centre Manager may well be able to assist
- Day pupils must then not return to school unless they have a negative test result or have been symptom free following infection for at least 48 hours
- Remote learning options will be available for pupils at home if they are well enough to access it
- If a member of a day pupil's household exhibits symptoms, that pupil must self-isolate for 14 days as per government guidelines.

Boarding pupils

- Boarding pupils will have a daily temperature check as they leave the house in the morning
- If a boarding pupil develops symptoms they will be isolated within school until a test can be carried out and the results received
- If a pupil is diagnosed with COVID parents/guardians should arrange for them to go home, where they will be more comfortable, if possible
- If going home isn't an option, isolation accommodation will be provided in school until the pupil has been symptom free for at least 48 hours.

Coronavirus infection prevention

Previous communication will have made you aware of the social distancing measures that are in place in school. This combined with the wearing of face masks in public areas should reduce the likelihood of an outbreak of COVID in school.

However the most effective way of preventing an outbreak remains

Thorough and regular handwashing

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