



**DEAN CLOSE**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
CHELTENHAM

# Parent/Guardian Information

## Co-curricular Matters

### March 2021

**This information is intended to provide parents/guardians with further details of the arrangements put in place at DCPS for the reopening of school on 8th March 2021.**

#### **Learning Support**

Learning support lessons will take place in school from Monday 8th March. Teaching times will revert to what they were in the Michaelmas term, in the usual rooms.

The majority of learning support lessons take place on a 1:1 basis. Where it is necessary for pupils to be in a lesson together, they will be from the same year group bubbles and appropriate social distancing will be observed.

The same safety measures will be in place as during the Michaelmas term, such as: hand-washing or sanitizing before entering LS rooms; surfaces being wiped down after every lesson; 2m distance being maintained; staff wearing face shields in addition to masks if they need to be closer than 2m for a short time.

Pupils who are unable to return to school for Covid reasons, or who have to self-isolate, will have their Learning Support lessons taught through Google Classroom at the times they would have them if they were in school.

#### **EAL lessons**

EAL lessons will take place in school from Monday 8th March. Teaching times will revert to what they were in the Michaelmas term. Mrs Goodwin's pupils will be taught in the EAL classroom and Mrs Chare's pupils will be taught in Yeaman.

The same safety measures will be in place as during the Michaelmas term, such as: a one way system; hand-washing or sanitizing before entering EAL rooms; surfaces being wiped down after every lesson; 2m distance being maintained; staff wearing face shields in addition to masks if they need to be closer than 2m for a short time.

Pupils who are unable to return to school for Covid reasons, or who have to self-isolate, will have their EAL lessons taught through Google Classroom at the times they would have them if they were in school.

#### **Games**

In games lessons, girls will do netball and boys will do hockey, as is usual for the Lent term. The year group 'bubbles' will be maintained and all sessions will follow the guidelines set out by the relevant National Governing Body. Equipment cannot be shared or loaned so it is imperative that all pupils have the correct equipment at all times.

#### **PE**

A revised PE schedule will be sent next week for the last three weeks of this term.

## Tennis and cricket lessons

Private tennis and cricket lessons will aim to start the week beginning 15th March. This will be confirmed shortly and further information will follow.

## Swimming

- Saturday morning swimming for Years 3 and 4 will continue as in the Michaelmas term (Year 4 8-8.35am; Year 3 8.45-9.20am) starting on Saturday 13th March.
- Early morning swim training will commence week beginning Monday 15th March (Year 7 on Mondays; Year 8 on Tuesdays)
- Swim training after school will start on Thursday 11th March for Year 6, and the following week on Tuesday for Year 5.

## Cross country

This will commence Thursday 11th March for Year 8, and the following week on Monday for Years 5 & 6, and Tuesday for Year 7.

## Horse riding

Horse riding will not take place until further notice.

## Music lessons

All individual music lessons will begin again in school from Monday 8th March. This includes drumkit tuition that has had to be suspended during this latest lockdown. We will be continuing with the safety measures put in place in the Michaelmas term, including hand sanitizing, screens and increased ventilation. It is still not possible for us to allow parents to attend lessons at this time.

Timetables will be displayed on the Rickerby and Hardy notice boards for pupils to check their times. The timetables will also be shared in the important notices of Hermes on Friday 5th March for parents to check music lesson times.

For pupils who are unable to return to school as they are overseas, or for any needing to self-isolate, music lessons will take place remotely as they have previously. We will ask music teachers to be in touch with parents of these pupils to work out the best way forward. If pupils are unwell, as at all times, it will not be possible for this lesson to be made up.

Mrs Cope (piano teacher) is unable to return to work presently and will continue with remote teaching which will be facilitated at school, through a school device, at the timetabled times.

## ENSEMBLES

Our popular bubble ensembles and choirs will begin again immediately on our return for the rest of the Lent term. New members are most welcome to join us. We may well be able to develop provision of ensembles in the Trinity term.

- Monday: Year 8 Ensemble and Year 3 & 4 Ensemble
- Tuesday: Year 7 Ensemble and Year 5 & 6 Ensemble
- Wednesday: Year 5 & 6 String Quartet and Flute Ensemble
- Thursday: Year 8 Choir & Year 3 & 4 Choir
- Friday: Year 7 Choir & Year 5 & 6 Choir

## CONCERTS AND THE HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITIONS FINALS

We are still working on possible musical events and finals for the House Music Competition and will relay information to parents as it becomes available.

## Speech & Drama and Dance

We are delighted to return to face-to-face Speech and Drama and Dance classes from 8th March 2021.

All appropriate safety measures will be taken, including hand sanitisers in all drama and dance teaching rooms, adequate ventilation, and pupils will be taught in year group bubbles. Surfaces and equipment will be cleaned regularly. Pupils are required to bring their own stationery and equipment to lessons.

For pupils who are unable to return to school as they are overseas, or for any needing to self-isolate, Speech and Drama lessons and Dance lessons will take place remotely as they have previously. If pupils are unwell, as at all times, it will not be possible for this lesson to be made up.