

Parent/Guardian Information

Events Planning

Trinity Term 2021



DEAN CLOSE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CHELTENHAM

This information is intended for parents and guardians to give an update on Government Guidance to schools and an update on planning in place for events in Trinity Term 2021.

Please note that all the events below are subject to change and dependent on Government Guidance.

Wearing of Masks

From Monday 17th May pupils in Years 7-8 will no longer need to wear masks in lessons when sat down and we will revert to the mantra of 'stand-up, mask on, sit-down, mask off' in Dean Close Preparatory School. Masks will still be expected to be worn in buildings when stood up, on buses to matches and in queues. We are retaining the wearing of masks, because the Foundation still sees the difficulties for pupils to stay 2m apart. We do not want to have to send 'bubbles' home and want to do all we can to ensure the safety of the whole community.

Staff will continue to wear masks when they are unable to stay 2m social distance from pupils or adults.

All visitors to the school will be asked to wear masks when they are unable to stay 2m social distance from pupils or adults.

This guidance is in place at the moment, but schools have been told that in certain circumstances the government may ask schools to re-introduce mask wearing and we will ensure you are given sufficient notice if this is the case.

New guidelines will be sent after Half Term, when we sincerely hope that pupils will no longer need to wear masks.

Lateral Flow Device Testing

It is vital that parents of pupils in Years 7-8 continue to use the Lateral Flow Tests and report results twice a week to the following [NHS Service](#), as has been explained in previous communications.

Parents and supporters watching matches

We are keen to welcome parents back to watch matches and know that this is something that parents are keen to do as well. As a Foundation we want to facilitate this as soon as possible. However, we want to ensure that this is done in a safe and sensible manner and there are numerous things we need to consider, such as toilet facilities for visitors, how we can ensure parents are not in groups of more than 30 and still socially distance themselves etc.

Therefore, at the moment we have decided that we would like to maintain the status quo with no parents or supporters watching matches until at the earliest the week after half term, beginning Monday 7th June. However, we are keen to welcome parents and supporters back so will update you as we work through our logistical questions.

Year 8 Leavers' Trip - Monday 14th June to Friday 18th June

Government Guidance has altered to allow us to run a Year 8 Leavers' Programme. This means we are able to run the following plan;

Year 8 will be divided into 2 groups: Group A Monday - Wednesday; Group B Wednesday - Friday. As in previous years, pupils will stay at St. George's House and take part in various organised outdoor activities. Groups not at St. George's will remain at school and activities will be organised using school facilities and local facilities.

Further details with costs, kit lists, consent forms and a detailed plan of the week will be sent at the end of next week to all Year 8 parents.

Sports Day - Saturday 19th June

As indicated to parents in previous communications at the moment Sports Day will take place without parents on site, as unfortunately the regulations on groups of more than 30 still apply. Sports Day is always a hugely popular event for both pupils, staff and parents. If we were to open the school site for all parents, an event where over 300 pupils, 70 staff and maybe over 300 parents were on site before the regulations have changed, the school could be seen as reckless and may even be breaking the law.

However, we are keenly aware that parents and pupils thoroughly enjoy Sports Day and will be monitoring and reviewing our decision in the weeks leading up to Sports Day. If we believe that it is possible to run Sports Day legally and safely then we would be very happy to allow parents to come and watch, but hope you understand that we must follow government regulations as we see them.

All pupils in Years 3-8 are expected to attend and further details, with timings, will be sent to parents nearer the time.

Annual Speech Day - Saturday 26th June

The school hopes to be able to celebrate the achievements of our pupils next term during our traditional Speech Day event. As indicated before to parents and guardians after 21st June we are extremely hopeful that we will be able to invite parents on site, in a safe manner, beginning with Speech Day on Saturday 26th June and further details of the day will be sent at the start of Half Term.

- **Option 1 - On the morning of Saturday 26th June Whole School (Preferred)**
Speeches and Prize Giving for all year groups, plus parents and visitors followed by picnics and refreshment in Dean Close House gardens.
- **Option 2 - Events split across two days Friday 25th June and Saturday 26th June**
For pupils in Years 3 to 6 and their parents an 'End of Year Celebration' will be held on the afternoon of Friday 25th June. This will be followed by tea and refreshments served in the Dean Close House gardens.
For pupils in Years 7 and 8 and their parents, 'Speech Day and Prize Giving' will be held on the morning of Saturday 26th June This will be followed by a reception and picnics in the Dean Close House gardens.
- **Option 3 - Year 8 Leavers and their parents only on Saturday 26th June**
For pupils in Year 8 and their parents only, 'Speech Day and Prize Giving' will be held on the morning of Saturday 26th June. This will be followed by a reception and picnics in the Dean Close House gardens.

Senior Play Performances - Tuesday 29th June, Wednesday 30th June and Thursday 1st July. Performances start at 7.00pm

'Bugsy' is the senior production this year. The plan is for there to be three performances with a live audience. Ticket details will be sent nearer the time. If an audience is not permitted, due to Government guidance, the school will provide other ways of ensuring parents and relatives can watch a performance.

End of School Year - Friday 2nd July

The end of the school academic year is an important event and we will end with a Leavers' Service in the Memorial Chapel at Dean Close School. We hope that parents of pupils leaving the school will be able to attend this event. The school day will end at 12.00pm (approx), although exact details and timings will be sent through to parents nearer the time. From 12.30pm we hope to be able to invite all leaving pupils and their parents to a lunchtime event in Dean Close House gardens.

School calendar

Please click [here](#) to access the Live Website Calendar with all the events for next term.

Due to government guidance and the busy and dynamic nature of the school, there are sometimes inevitable changes to our calendar. Do please refer to this online version for the most up to date information.