

March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We are really looking forward to seeing your child come back into school next week. As it has been a couple of months since the end of last term, I thought some reminders would be useful:

First Week Back:

We run a two-week timetable and **next week is Week 2** so students need to bear this in mind when bringing in equipment. We are having a staggered first week to give us time to carry out coronavirus testing for all students. A letter about this has gone out separately and I would ask you to read through it carefully. The timetable for the first week has also been sent out but I am including it here as a reminder:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Monday 8 th March	LATERAL FLOW TEST				LATERAL FLOW TEST
Tuesday 9 th March	YEAR 7 BACK IN SCHOOL FROM TODAY	LATERAL FLOW TEST		LATERAL FLOW TEST	YEAR 11 BACK IN SCHOOL FROM TODAY
Wednesday 10 th March		YEAR 8 BACK IN SCHOOL FROM TODAY	LATERAL FLOW TEST	YEAR 10 BACK IN SCHOOL FROM TODAY	
Thursday 11 th March			YEAR 9 BACK IN SCHOOL		
Friday 12 th March	SALIVA-BASED TEST	LATERAL FLOW TEST	LATERAL FLOW TEST	SALIVA-BASED TEST	SALIVA-BASED TEST

The School Day:

At the beginning of the day, students should go to their designated area (see the information on year-group bubbles below). We will continue to have a staggered end to the day to avoid too much mixing between year group bubbles. Years 7 and 8 will leave 10 minutes early (Monday= 2.25pm; Tuesday-Friday= 2.45pm). This worked well last term.

www.thehambleschool.co.uk

T: 023 8045 2105 • general@thehambleschool.co.uk • twitter.com/TheHambleSchool

Satchell Lane, Hamble, Southampton, SO31 4NE

Headteacher: Mr A Govan, BA (Hons), MA Ed. NPQH



We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England



School Uniform:

Students should wear full school uniform. On the days they have PE, your child should come in in full PE kit as we are still not using the changing rooms at the moment

Transport to School:

The Xelabus will be running from Tuesday 9th March. All other public transport has continued to run throughout lockdown. Your child will need to wear a face covering on the bus/train for the whole journey.

Face Coverings:

The new guidance mandates the wearing of face coverings in classrooms. We have been doing this since November of last year so it will simply be a return to what we were doing last term. Face coverings should be a plain colour. If your child cannot wear a face covering because of a medical condition or anxiety, please let the Head of Year know and they will arrange an exemption lanyard.

Year-Group Bubbles:

Students will stay in year-group bubbles throughout the school day. Each year group has a designated area for break, lunch and before school. Each year group also has a separate catering outlet. The one-way system throughout the school (inside and outside) helps keep students from different year groups separate to each other. We will again spend time with students emphasising the importance of self-discipline to ensure that everyone works together to minimise risk. The catering outlet/designates areas are:

- **Year 7:** Dining Hall; outside the Dining Hall
- **Year 8:** Drama studio; outside Tokyo
- **Year 9:** Pavilion; tennis courts
- **Year 10:** Athens; Beijing field
- **Year 11:** Skills Centre; outside Skills Centre/Exams line-up area

Children should use the nearest set of toilets at break and lunch to avoid the mixing of students.

Cleaning and Hygiene:

All classrooms will be sterilised between lessons. Our cleaners will clean throughout the day, focussing on touch points and toilets. We will remind students about the importance of washing hands frequently and using hand sanitiser. Good respiratory hygiene will also be stressed. Hand sanitiser will be available in all classrooms and students will be expected to use this at the beginning and end of each lesson. I would also advise students to bring in a small bottle of hand sanitiser for personal use during the day.

Equipment:

Students cannot share equipment. Teachers will clean any shared resources, such as Art materials. We still have equipment packs to purchase via Scopay this week if needed - the packs will then be available to collect on the first day back. The packs contain: a plastic see-through pencil case; ruler; protractor; scissors; compass; glue stick; rubber; pencil sharpener; purple pen; green biro; 2 black bios; 2 pencils; 2 highlighters; and a small pack of colouring pencils. The cost of these packs is £5.

Communication:

All school letters will be emailed to the registered email address we have for you so if you change your email please let us know. It is always worth checking the school website to see the latest information. I will continue to write a Headteacher blog to keep you informed about school life and key messages that I hope you will find useful. If you use Twitter, please consider following the school account because we increasingly post a lot of information on this platform.

I know this is a lot of information and I will lead virtual assemblies with all year groups next week to remind them of our expectations. Whilst it is natural that there will be some anxiety, I hope that you and your child are looking forward to this return to school. Last September, the students quickly adjusted to school life and I am sure that will happen again. Hopefully, with vaccines continuing to be rolled out, this will be the last lockdown any of us experience.

If you need to contact the school, please either phone or email general@thehambleschool.co.uk. Because of coronavirus, we have restrictions on visitors accessing the school site. This means that we will be unable to let parents on site without an appointment so please do not turn up without one. Your cooperation and understanding is appreciated during this time.

Finally, it seems very likely that either the government guidance will change throughout the term or that circumstances in school may require us to amend our plans. If we need to change any of the above plans, we will let you know immediately by email; if the communication is urgent, we may text you to let you know that a letter has been sent.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Govan". The signature is stylized and includes a small dot at the end.

Mr A Govan
Headteacher

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.