



August 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

I hope that you have enjoyed a good summer holiday, whether you have stayed at home or managed to get away. We are very much looking forward to welcoming back your children to school at the start of the new year academic year.

A few reminders that I hope will be of use:

**Face Coverings:**

There has been a lot about face coverings in the media over the past week. Face coverings are required on public transport and in all shops, so most children will need to carry one with them. If your child brings a face covering into school, it should either be disposed of at the beginning of the day (bins will be available at the school entrances) or put away safely in a plastic bag in their school bag.

Face coverings are not currently required in school. We have introduced a one-way system throughout most of the school and classrooms will be well-ventilated. The current guidance is that they do not need to be worn in classrooms. Some children may wish to wear a face covering because they are shielding or because someone in their family is shielding. If this is the case, or if your child wishes to wear a face covering because they feel anxious, please contact your child's Head of Year at the beginning of term so that we can work with you.

The new government guidance, which was amended on Friday evening, advises that face coverings for children moving around the school will be mandatory in the event of a local lockdown or extra government restrictions. If this happens, we will contact you by text and email.

**Transport to School:**

Current advice is that students should travel to school by walking, cycling or travelling by car if possible. However, a lot of students rely on train or bus services to travel to and from school. Students are expected to wear face coverings when travelling to and from school. We sent out details last week from Southern Rail and you can find a copy of that information on our school website. It is likely that there will be a number of updates over the next term so we have added a tab on the front page of our website so that all of this is easier to find. Please check the following link for the most up-to-date information, including information on travelling to school:

<https://www.thehambleschool.co.uk/current-announcements>

**www.thehambleschool.co.uk**

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



### **Year-Group Bubbles:**

Students will stay in year-group bubbles throughout the school day. We have created a designated area for each year group for break, lunch and before school, and each year group will have a separate catering outlet. The introduction of a one-way system throughout the school will help keep students from different year groups separate from each other. We will spend time with students emphasising the importance of self-discipline to ensure that everyone works together to minimise risk. At the moment, we have not implemented a split-lunch system but, like everything, I will review this throughout the term.

### **Cleaning and Hygiene:**

All classrooms will be cleaned 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 will 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.

### **First Week Back:**

A reminder that we are having a staggered first week, which is to give us time to explain the new expectations with each year group.

- Monday 07<sup>th</sup> September: Year 7
- Tuesday 08<sup>th</sup> September: Year 7 and Year 8
- Wednesday 09<sup>th</sup> September: Year 7 and Year 9
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September: Year 7 and Year 11
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September: Year 7, Year 11, and Year 10
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September: All year groups back in

### **Communication:**

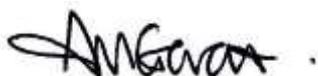
All school letters will be emailed to the registered email address we have for you so if you change your email please let us know. It is always worth checking the school website to see the latest information. I will continue to write a Headteacher blog to keep you informed about school life and key messages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

If you need to contact the school, please either phone or email [general@thehambleschool.co.uk](mailto: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.

I hope that you have a good last week of holiday and I look forward to seeing all of the children back into school starting on Monday 07<sup>th</sup> September.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Govan', followed by a small dot.

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.*