



# THE GRANGE SCHOOL

*Specialising in Business and Enterprise*

*Mr V Murray - Headteacher*

3 September 2020

## **Returning Safely to School**

Dear Parents and Carers

It was great to be able to greet so many happy Year 7 and Year 12 students into school today, it felt as close to 'normal' as we have experienced for a very long time.

We have had a great start and we have already made a few observations around organising our school to ensure we keep everyone safe and ready to learn. I need to ask for your support to help us make Thursday and beyond even smoother than today.

## **Arrival Times**

Any Year 7 parent trying to drop off or pick up their sons or daughters today, will agree with me that the sheer volume of traffic is a significant concern. The congestion is further increased by the increased traffic to and from Turnfurlong School at the roundabout.

The arrival times have been staggered to avoid congestion, but also to reduce students congregating outside the school. We need to ask students to arrive in Wendover Way only a few minutes prior to their allocated arrival time.

To protect our bubbles, students are only permitted access during their slot and cannot enter the site early. I am keen to avoid groups of students congregating in the road, so please ensure your son or daughter is aware of their entry time.

Y7 & Y8	8.25 – 8.35
Y9 & Y12&13	8.35 – 8.45
Y10 & Y11	8.45 – 8.55

If you are dropping off or picking up your child, please arrange to do so off Wendover Way to avoid further congestion. There is no access to the car park for parents or carers vehicles, as it is a congested site due to limited parking and a high number of students present.

## **Visitors to School, including parents and carers**

As you would expect, we are restricting visitors to the school as much as possible. With this in mind, please do not come into school unless you have booked an appointment. If you turn up at school reception to see a member of staff without an appointment, you will be turned away and asked to make an appointment. We need to do this to reduce the number of potential contacts in reception.

We also need to minimise the number of items that need to be dropped off at school. If, however, you really do need to drop something off for you child (e.g. a book, PE kit, lunch box etc.) please make sure the item is bagged and clearly labelled with your son or daughter's name and tutor group. When you get to the school, reception will open the door for you and you will be directed to put the package in the parcel room. Reception will NOT be able to take the item from you or handle it



If you need to drop off money for lunch, please put it in a sealed envelope with the name and tutor group of the student clearly marked and leave it on the desk outside the reception window. The reception staff will then make sure it gets to the correct person.

Meetings with staff will be kept to an absolute minimum and avoided wherever possible. We have very limited appropriate office space and need to reduce the number of contacts wherever possible. We will of course be very happy to discuss any concerns you have by telephone at a mutually agreeable time. Please remember many staff are teaching during the day and are on duty during our student breaks and lunches, so most calls are likely to be returned later in the day.

### **Preparing for Learning – DEAR time**

Most students have already experienced DEAR time (drop everything and read) but not all. Until now, we have been able to use the library and choose the books to read, but at the moment, this is not possible. Can I please ask you to ensure your child has a reading book each day as part of their equipment list. If you are unsure of the suitability of a book you may have, please send them in with it and then to ask their English teacher. Also, we are unable to use dictionaries in class, so if you have one at home, please feel free to bring it to school for your child to use.

### **Equipment**

As we are unable to give stationery or equipment to students to use, each student must have their own. We have a small stock of items for difficult situations, but we cannot be relied upon to provide it often. If there is an issue with providing the equipment needed, please get in touch with your child's form tutor.

### **Outer Wear – please bring a coat**

Due to the changeable weather, we need all students to be responsible and bring a waterproof jacket to school each day. As we have zoned the classrooms and school site, we do not have the usual capacity for indoor space in wet or cold weather. A light, foldaway jacket in the bottom of the bag would be enough whilst we hold on to the end of summer.

### **Uniform**

It was great to see so many of our Year 7 students in immaculate uniform today, long may it last! Can I please ask you to make sure you read the uniform guidance closely in regards to Skirts and tights, shoes not trainers, hair accessory colour etc. here....

<https://www.grange.bucks.sch.uk/parents/school-uniform>

I hope that if we can all play our part in the smooth running of our school to ensure your son or daughter gets the best learning experience possible. I do not intend to write to you too often, but I am sure there will something I have missed!

Yours faithfully



**Nick Golding**  
**Deputy Headteacher**