



FITZHARRYS SCHOOL

Fitzharrys School
Northcourt Road
Abingdon
OX14 1NP

Tel: 01235 520698

Email: office.4127@fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk

Head of School: Mr W Speke BA (Hons)

11 September 2020

Dear parents and carers,

At the end of the first full week back in school, I wanted to let you know what a positive start the school community has made. All our students have responded brilliantly to the adjustments we have made to normal routines, with handwashing and social distancing being carefully adhered to. The staff have been superb in focussing students on achieving their very best whilst also ensuring they are safe in school.

There are some key reminders and other points of information that I would like to share with you.

Digital access

Following the lockdown earlier we are carefully preparing for any potential future closure. Whilst we hope this will not be needed, we want to ensure that any remote learning is carefully prepared and accessible to all. To help us please can you complete the following survey around digital access for your child: <http://tiny.cc/Fitzdigitalaccess>

Water Fountains

We currently have 2 water fountains in school which are situated in the year 8 zone and the canteen. Therefore, these are only available for year 8 and year 9 students. Year 8 students have access to the external fountain, while year 9 can use the one in the canteen area. Unfortunately, this means other year groups cannot access water fountains in the day. Please can you ensure that students in years 7, 10 and 11 come to school with sufficient water for the day. Water is available to purchase from the different food serving points, and we are investigating how we can increase access for all year groups.

Staying in bubbles

While the vast majority of students are carefully sticking to their bubbles, we want to ensure that students know the importance of this. Please talk to your child to re-emphasise the importance of this in preventing the spread of any possible infection. If a student does cross into another bubble we will treat this seriously and follow up using the behaviour policy. I will be highlighting this to students in assemblies next week, but your support with this key message is greatly appreciated.



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To try and space out year group bubbles at the end of the school day we have are staggering when students leave. Year 8 and 10 finish 5 minutes earlier each day, allowing them to leave the site before other year groups. The one-way system and location of the bubbles ensures students are dispersed as they leave, helping students stay in their bubbles as much as possible.

Possible infection and tests

If your child has COVID-19 symptoms, it is vital they do not come into school. They should get a test straight away. If the test is negative, they should come back into school once the school has received notification of the result. This is normally in email form and should be forwarded to the school office email address office.4127@fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk

Students must not come back into school before we have had confirmation of the result. If the result is positive, then the government guidance should be followed. You can find this at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Open evening

Due to COVID-19 restrictions this year's open evening will not be going ahead in the usual way. We will be hosting a virtual open evening on the school website from 6pm on Thursday 24th September. Consequently, there is no need for the school to close early and students will be finishing at the normal time of 3.10/15pm.

Thank you again for your continued support and vigilance in this challenging time. The response of the Fitzharrys community has been superb. As ever, please contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Will Speke
Head of School



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