

Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week the government announced that they are asking all schools to prepare to welcome <u>all children</u> back to school in September. We are very pleased that we can now start planning for this to happen. In order to minimise the risks to pupils and staff we will be using the guidance provided by the Department for Education and putting in place any necessary protective measures. This guidance is quite substantial and we will of course need to consider carefully how it can be applied to our context. We will therefore be writing to you again before the start of next term with a more detailed picture of some of the changes that we will be introducing from the start of next term. Our priority at all times has been, and continues to be, the safety and wellbeing of everyone in the school community. The DfE has published a guide for parents which you can read here: <u>What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term</u>

It was also announced last week that schools are not expected to remain open for children of critical workers or those who are vulnerable over the summer holidays. At Bishop's we have been pleased to remain open throughout the period of lockdown, including throughout holidays and bank holidays. In line with government guidance we will not be open to these pupils over the summer holidays, so the last day of provision for these pupils will be Friday 17th July. We would like to thank parents/carers for the many messages of support and gratitude we have received for remaining open to these pupils. This has been achieved through our staff often voluntarily giving up their time, and the fact that so many of our staff have been willing to do this is another reminder of their dedication.

The other important announcement made last week was from Ofqual and relates to their proposals for amending arrangements for examinations due to take place in summer 2021 (ie for our current Year 10 and Year 12 pupils). These proposals are now open for consultation and you can read them in full, and make comments on them, here: Proposed changes to the assessment of GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2021

We will write to you again before the end of term confirming arrangements for the start of term in September.

Yours sincerely,
Mr A Wood and Ms T Nickson
Co-Headteachers

"This is an OUTSTANDING school" - Ofsted 2016









