

28 May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

An enormous thank you for your support over recent weeks in helping to keep our school community safe. We are very grateful to so many of you for all your lateral flow testing at home, I would like to ask you to continue this over half term and into the last few weeks of this academic year.

I am able to report we are starting to return to some form of normality in school. The lifting of the mandatory requirement to wear facemasks has made a big difference to communication between staff and students. Our bubbles and zones will remain for the moment and will be reviewed after half term, as will our ventilation policy. We continue to be very pleased there has been no internal transmission of the virus in school at all since the pandemic began.

There are other aspects of our work which have re-started, although currently in first gear we will hopefully soon get to fifth! This includes a DofE practice expedition, an amazing year 13 art exhibition (restricted viewing); and a few lower years sport and arts clubs. Rehearsals for a sixth form production of Rent are also underway, I am delighted to inform you this is being performed at The Tivoli in Wimborne on the 21 and 22 July at 7.30pm. Please buy tickets direct from The Tivoli and support our wonderful students who had to experience the cancellation of last year's production.

The focus on year 11 and 13 has been significant this half term. I would like to commend the resilience of our students and staff in very unusual circumstances. As a result, a few items of our usual operation have been postponed and these do include our regular newsletter. We will make up for this next half term.

We said an official goodbye to our year 13 students yesterday but look forward to seeing them for an end of year 'social' after half term. They really have been a fabulous year group and despite all the challenges of the last year they have had a terrific sense of humour and really worked very hard with staff to get some very good grades. I commend their efforts and say what a delight it has been to have them here. I look forward to celebrating with them at Presentation Evening next winter as I do all year 11 students, many of the latter year group are remaining in the sixth form but to those who are leaving, we all wish you well for the future.

If your child tests positive for Covid-19 during the half-term break, please call the number below between 08.30 and 10.00am

07857 113728

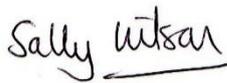


We will then check our seating plans, and contact anyone who has been identified as being in close proximity to your child. If you need to call, please also provide the names of anyone in your child's friendship group so that they may also be contacted.

Please find below information regarding uniform for after half term. Please read this with your son/daughter so they are clear regarding our expectations.

Many thanks for your continued support

Yours sincerely



Sally Wilson
Headteacher

Uniform guidance from after May Half Term 2021

Thank you for all that you have done to ensure that students have been well dressed and equipped during a difficult time. Your joint efforts are valuable as they help us to maintain a calm and purposeful atmosphere in school.

Now that the weather is improving and things are returning to nearer normal, we are returning to the former uniform expectations from Tuesday 8th June. Students will still be allowed to wear PE kit on PE days but this will be strictly limited to the items listed below. **There should be no longer be any extra non-uniform hoodies/jumpers on any school day.** Students are expected to wear their school jumper/cardigan and a coat, if needed for warmth. We will be expecting students to remove their outdoor garments in the classrooms. The mixing of school uniform and PE kit will not be acceptable.

Here is a reminder of the uniform list which can also be found in the student planner and on our website.

Uniform days from 07.06.21:

- Skirt** Plain black skirt with no slit. Tight fitting, lycra or stretchy skirts are not acceptable in a school environment. Skirts must be of a modest fit and length, the hem finishing no more than 10cm above the middle of the knee. Examples of preferred skirt styles are available on our website.
- Trousers** Plain, unpatterned black school trousers, of full ankle length and not tight or close fitting to the ankle. Denim/cotton jeans-style, corduroy, leggings or stretch fabric and logos are unacceptable. Examples of preferred trousers styles are available on our website.
- Blouse** A maroon/white striped Blandford School blouse with revere collar worn neatly tucked into skirt or trousers and fully buttoned. These may not be worn in PE. Underwear should be natural coloured and discreet. No coloured or visible tops must be worn under blouses.



- Shirt** A maroon/white striped Blandford School shirt worn neatly tucked into trousers and fully buttoned at the collar. A Blandford School tie worn correctly covering the collar button. These may not be worn in PE. Underwear should be natural coloured and discreet. No coloured or visible tops must be worn under shirts.
- Jumper** A plain black jumper or cardigan with 'The Blandford School' logo. Should any additional outdoor clothing be required, this must be in the form of a coat or jacket as non-uniform jumpers, hoodies and sportswear are not allowed. Uniform must always be clearly visible.
- Footwear** Plain, black, low-heeled, leather-style smart school shoes or boots. Boots are only acceptable if worn discreetly and under trousers. Combat boots and steel toe-caps are not accepted. Sandals, soft/canvas shoes, trainers, open back shoes and shoes with logos or accessories are also unacceptable. Plain white, grey or black socks. Plain, unpatterned, black or natural colour tights. School shoes must be worn in all school buildings. Black daps will be issued to students who infringe this rule.
- Hair** Should be clean and tidy and of natural colour. There should be no streaks or extremes of fashion or hair accessories. Facial hair is not permitted, shaved heads and shorter than a grade two are also unacceptable.
- Belts** Must be plain, black and unobtrusive.
- Scarves** May not be worn as an accessory without outdoor wear.
- Headgear** No hats or caps may be worn in the school building.
- Nails** Nails should be kept short for safety reasons. False nails are not acceptable. Nail varnish must be subtle and removed if requested by a member of staff.
- Jewellery** This must be discreet, and only one pair of small, plain studs should be worn with a maximum of one earring in each ear. For health and safety reasons, any form of stretcher, nose, facial or body piercing is unacceptable. Retainers are also unacceptable and will not be allowed. Students who do not comply will be isolated. One discreet ring and one discreet necklace may be worn in addition to a suitable watch. No bracelets or charity bands. Jewellery must be removed if requested for safety purposes. Any jewellery worn in addition to the above will have to be removed and confiscated.
- Make-Up** Make-up must be subtle and must be removed if requested by a member of staff.

PE days from 07.06.21:

Compulsory

Maroon TBS rugby shirt or Maroon polo shirt with TBS logo

Black TBS shorts or black netball skort - **(skorts must be worn with black leggings or tracksuit trousers outside of PE lessons)**

Black football socks

Trainers with non-marking soles



MOTIVATION AND CHALLENGE FOR ALL

The Blandford School Tel: 01258 451121
Milldown Road Fax: 01258 454755
Blandford Forum Email: office@blandfordschool.org.uk
Dorset, DT11 7SQ Web: www.blandfordschool.org.uk

**THE BLANDFORD
SCHOOL**

Football boots (plastic/nylon or moulded studs are the only acceptable type for the synthetic turf pitch (STP). Please note that 'astro-trainers' are not suitable for use on the STP)

Optional

Black TBS PE Hoody or plain black hoody (no logos permitted)
Plain Black tracksuit bottoms/Plain Black Leggings
Black TBS outdoor Sports Jacket
Maroon TBS Sports Hoody.
Maroon TBS Sports Fleece
Black or Maroon underlayer.

