

4 September 2021

Upper-school site: Stanley Avenue
Wembley, Middlesex HA0 4JE

Lower-school site: Ealing Road
Wembley, Middlesex HA0 4PW

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www.alperton.brent.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

Important Information for the Autumn Term 2021

As you are aware, secondary school students are expected to take two lateral flow tests at the start of the autumn term. The purpose of the lateral flow test is to check for asymptomatic coronavirus. If a child has asymptomatic coronavirus they are highly likely to pass the virus to others without realising they have the infection. Last week we concluded the first round of lateral flow tests for most year groups. I am pleased to inform you that we have so far not had a single positive test result.

With the easing of coronavirus restrictions the Government has released new guidance for schools. From September, there is no longer a requirement that children are kept in smaller groups or "bubbles". Also, students are no longer required to wear face coverings in school. This letter sets out our school procedures for the new academic year.

IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES

Monday 6 September

Years 7, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 - Normal school day. Arrive at 8:20am for 8:30am Form Time

Year 8 - Lateral Flow Tests

10am 8K, 8L, 8N

11am 8P, 8Q, 8R

12 noon 8S, 8T, 8V

2pm 8W, 8X, 8Y

Year 8 students will go home once they have taken their test. They do not need to wear school uniform on Monday.

Tuesday 7 September

Year 8 - Normal school day. Arrive at 8:20am for 8:30am Form Time. Finish at normal time.

Years 7, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 - **Arrive at 11:00am.** Finish at normal time.

Wednesday 8 September onwards

Normal school day for ALL students

We expect to complete the second round of lateral flow tests for all students by the end of next week. Following this, students are expected to conduct lateral flow tests at home every Monday and Thursday until the end of September when the Government will advise us on next steps.

Vaccinations

Students aged 18 and over can get a COVID-19 vaccine by booking an appointment at a larger vaccination centre or pharmacy. Students can also book a vaccination if they turn 18 in the next 3 months ([here](#)).

The NHS are currently contacting young people aged 16 and 17 to invite them to a local NHS service for a vaccination. These appointments cannot be booked online, however, some walk-in COVID-19 vaccination sites, such as the Central Middlesex Hospital, are offering the vaccine to people aged 16 and 17. You can check if a site is available near you [here](#).

The Government is expected to make an announcement shortly on vaccinations for 12 to 15 year olds.

Health

It is extremely important that you **DO NOT** send your child to school if they are showing any symptoms of coronavirus. The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has coronavirus symptoms they should [get a PCR test](#) as soon as possible.

If a member of your household has tested positive for coronavirus, but your child has tested negative, your child is allowed to attend school provided they are younger than 18 years, 6 months old.

Travel to School

We strongly encourage all children to walk or cycle to school. Students cycling to school must wear a helmet and carry lights. Bicycles must be locked at the identified locations on the school site.

All students commuting by public transport must allow ample time for their journey in the morning.

If you are considering driving your child to school, please be aware that traffic enforcement regulations are in place at Alperton underground station.

Please note that all students are expected to be **on site at 8:20am**.

End of Day Procedures

We have a staggered end to the school day so that different year groups leave school at different times. This does not impact on the amount of learning time children receive.

Students **MUST** go straight home and must not loiter. They are **NOT** allowed to go into any of the local shops at the end of the school day.

Please **DO NOT** give your child cash to bring to school to buy food. All purchases in school are made through the online parent pay system. We have received very positive reviews of our new catering company, Innovate. You can find more information about school meals and menus [here](#).

Children travelling home by bus will **no longer queue at the bus stop on Ealing Road.** Year 7, 8 and 9 children catching a bus northwards towards Wembley will be required to queue for the bus **INSIDE** the school site alongside the Children's Centre (Year 7 Entrance). When the bus arrives at Alperton Stop B they will be escorted to the bus stop by a member of staff. Children catching a bus towards Ealing and Perivale will need to wait inside the main entrance until they are ushered across the Ealing Road by the School Crossing Guard to access Alperton Stop A. We have introduced this measure in order to improve capacity on the pavement outside the school, to minimise any possibility of road accidents at the bus stop and to prevent queue jumping at the bus stop.

Year 10 and Year 11 students will also leave the Stanley Avenue site at different times. Year 10 and 11 students must use the Clayton Avenue (Stop S) outside the Post Office on the Ealing Road if they are commuting towards Wembley. Year 10 and Year 11 students commuting to St Rafael's must use the Mount Pleasant Bus Stop (Request) to catch route 224.

Year 10 and 11 students must move away from the school gates as quickly as possible as the Stanley Avenue pavement is very narrow. Year 10 and 11 students who commute home by walking past the Ealing Road site must walk along the pavement opposite the school and underground station (Atlip Road side).

Please inform your Pastoral Manager if you would like an older child to wait for a younger brother or sister at the end of the school day. Your Pastoral Manager will provide the older child with a special pass and explain where they need to wait inside the school grounds for younger siblings.

Social and Playground Areas

At Ealing Road, each year group has a separate entrance. Year 7 students will enter the school premises by the gates next to the Children's Centre. Year 7 will have access to the canopy area to the rear of the building as well as the Middle and Upper MUGAs. Year 8 and 9 enter through the main gates on Ealing Road but will follow different paths through the Plaza area. Year 8 will have access to the front of the school building and the Lower MUGA at social times. Year 9 move along a separate path to the main playground. This means all three year groups will have distinct and separate social spaces.

At Stanley Avenue, Year 10 and 11 students enter the school premises by the main student entrance, but have separate zoned playground areas. At Stanley Avenue there are 4 red lines which identify the limits of the playground. Year 10 students are permitted to (cautiously and sensibly) move across the sixth form car park area to access the main building, but are not allowed to stop or loiter in this area.

Sixth Form students will be able to enter the Ealing Road building at the start of the day and will be able to use the cafe area on the ground floor. Similarly, Sixth Form students arriving early at Stanley Avenue will be able to use the new Sixth Form Cafe in the canteen.

Registration

All students from Years 7 to 11 will line up in register order in their playground area. They will be walked to their form room by their form tutors. At Ealing Road, Year 7 must use the North Stairs, Year 8 the Central Stairs and Year 9 the West Stairs. Year 10 and Year 11 have separate entrances at Stanley Avenue.

The School Day

Please note that year groups have different finish times and our Monday school day is different to the other days of the week. The amount of teaching time is the same for each year group.

Monday

Years 9 & 10								01:25	02:25
Years 8, 11, 12 & 13	08:30	08:45	09:40	10:35	11:00	11:55	12:50	01:35	02:35
Year 7								01:45	02:45

Tuesday to Friday

Years 9 & 10								02:05	03:05
Years 8, 11, 12 & 13	08:30	09:00	10:00	11:00	11:30	12:30	01:30	02:15	03:15
Year 7								02:25	03:25

Lessons

As we have been advised to maintain a high standard of hand hygiene, every classroom has a hand sanitising unit.

At Ealing Road, most lessons will take place in a form room (English, maths, science theory, history, geography and religious studies). This means the teacher will come to the form room, rather than the students move around the building. Students are expected to stand in silence when their teacher enters the room. The teacher will indicate when it is appropriate for the children to sit and the lesson to begin. For some practical lessons, the teacher may decide to take the class to a specialist practical room e.g. art, computing, drama, music, practical science and sport. In these lessons, students are expected to wait in their form room until they are collected by their teacher. Students will be taught languages in specialist groups. Year 7 will be based on floor 3, year 8 on floor 2 and year 9 on the first floor and ground floor.

At Stanley Avenue there are two distinct bells to indicate lesson changeover. Year 10 students will move on the first bell and Year 11 students will move on the second bell. This helps to ease corridor congestion at the Stanley Avenue site.

Canteen, Break and Lunch

Our canteen provides an excellent selection of food for all students at both break and lunchtime, including drinks, snacks and hot meals.

At Ealing Road, all three year groups have full access to the canteen, but have separate seating arrangements.

At Stanley Avenue, we have significantly expanded and enhanced our canteen facility. Each year group has a separate seating location.

We believe students should use their break and lunchtime to exercise in fresh air and natural light. As students are not allowed to loiter in corridors at break or lunchtime for safeguarding reasons, all students must have a warm, waterproof jacket for outdoor use in the autumn term.

Toilets

At Ealing Road, each year group has been allocated the toilets nearest to form rooms. The Year 7 toilets are on floor 3, Year 8 on floor 2 and Year 9 on floor 1. Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students at Ealing Road must use the toilets on floor 1.

At Stanley Avenue, Year 10 toilets are located near the Year 10 entrance while Year 11 toilets are located next to the Hall. The sixth form toilets are in the sixth form block.

Cleaning and Ventilation

The school has arranged for additional cleaners to work during the school day in the autumn term. As well as the whole site being cleaned overnight, a number of cleaners will be working throughout the school day on both sites to clean high contact points e.g. door handles, stair rails. The cleaning products used are of the same standard as those used in hospitals and are antibacterial and antiviral.

Recent studies have suggested that good ventilation is essential in controlling the spread of coronavirus. For this reason, we will continue to keep classroom doors open during lessons, keep windows open and ensure fresh air is drawn through all ventilation systems.

Parent Events and Visiting the School

We will review our arrangements for parent meetings, such as Academic Review Meetings, during the autumn term. Parents will be advised whether the event will be remote or in person.

Please note that parents can either use the Year group tabs on the right of the school home page (www.alperton.brent.sch.uk) or call reception on 020 8902 2038 to make appointments to make an appointment to meet a member of staff.

Clubs, Extra-Curricular Activities and Visits

After-school activities and trips will resume during the autumn term. All students are invited to join our daily Breakfast Club where they will be served a free breakfast. Breakfast club opens at 8am every day on both sites.

Term Dates and Attendance

A reminder that term dates are available on the school website:

<http://www.alperton.brent.sch.uk/our-school/key-information/school-times-and-dates>.

The school expects the highest standards of attendance. The school will only approve leave during term time in highly exceptional circumstances. The Headteacher will make the final decision on requests for absence during term time.

Equipment, Uniform, Sports Equipment and Banned Items

Please see the useful checklists below for details on equipment, uniform, sports equipment and banned items.

Thank you to all parents for your tremendous support over the last 18 months. We will endeavour to do everything we can to provide a safe, stimulating and enjoyable learning environment for your children. We are very much looking forward to getting our school back to normal and meeting all our students again in September.

Yours sincerely,



Gerard McKenna
HEADTEACHER

USEFUL CHECKLISTS

Equipment

Every student must bring their own [basic equipment](#):

- Pencil case with black pens, a green pen, pencils, eraser, ruler, sharpener, colouring pencils
- Glue stick
- Calculator
- Reusable water bottle

Uniform

Full [School uniform](#) is compulsory.

- **Black** blazer with Alperton logo
- **White** school shirt
- School tie (the same colour as last year)
- **Grey** jumper with school logo
- **Grey** tailored trousers (boys and girls) *OR*

- **Grey tailored skirts** (“tube skirts” are not permitted). Skirts must be longer than knee-length and shorter than ankle-length)
- **Black** leather polish-able shoes (No branded sports footwear)
- **Grey** hijab
- **Waterproof Jacket/Coat** (for outdoor wear at break and lunchtime)

Sports Equipment

Full [sports kit](#) is compulsory.

- **Green polo shirt** with the school logo
- **Black** jogging bottoms or plain black sports leggings with the school logo
- **White trainers** with non-marking sole. No other trainers are allowed

Please note that from September, students will change for PE during their lesson and will no longer wear PE kit to school.

Dress Code/Banned Items

The school [Behaviour Policy](#) has a list of banned items, which includes:

- Aerosols
- Correction fluid e.g. Tippex
- Chewing gum
- Products containing betel nuts e.g. paan
- Electronic devices other than those agreed with the school for education purposes
- Jewellery
- Bracelets of any descriptions except those worn for religious purposes
- Chains, except medical tags
- Facial studs or rings
- Body piercings
- Ear-rings, other than plain gold or silver discrete rings or studs; one in the lobe of each ear
- Expensive watches
- Rings
- Make-up
- Non-natural hair colour
- Key chains
- Any article a staff member reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil) e.g. matches, lighters, solvents, corrosive chemicals, laser pens