



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Our Ref: LD/DLE/cc/SeptemberStart21

19th July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As you will probably be aware already, the government is due to implement new operational guidance for all schools from 16th August. This means that, in September, there is no longer a requirement for us to 'bubble' children. Face coverings will also no longer be advised in school but they should be worn on public transport (this includes school service buses 705, 811 and 788).

Please note that, as it states in the full guidance, which you can read [here](#), masks in classrooms and other measures may be 'stepped up' if there is a local outbreak. If this happens, we will follow all instructions from Public Health and update you accordingly.

Regarding self-isolating, the government guidance states: "From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so."

Lateral Flow Tests for home use are not being provided by the government over the summer break but we will continue to issue them from September, when pupils are back in school.

The rest of this letter contains all the information you need for your child to make a safe and successful start in September.

First days back in school in September

Year 7 begin Friday 3rd September

Year 8 begin Tuesday 7th September

Year 9 begin Wednesday 8th September

Year 10 begin Thursday 9th September

Year 11 begin Monday 6th September (unless they are Prefects, who should have received a separate letter explaining they are to be in on Friday 3rd September)

Year 12 begin Friday 3rd September

Year 13 come into school for lateral flow testing only Friday 3rd September. Lessons commence Monday 6th September.

See the table below for arrival times.

You can also see when your child (if you have consented) will have their two tests.



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	Friday 3 rd	Monday 6 th	Tuesday 7 th	Wednesday 8 th	Thursday 9 th	Friday 10 th	Monday 13 th
Year 7	Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 1	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 2	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45
Year 8			Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 1	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 2	Arrive 8.25-8.45
Year 9				Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 1	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 2
Year 10					Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 1	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 2
Year 11	Prefects in school	Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 1	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45 Take test 2	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45
Year 12	Arrive between 8.15-8.45 Take test 1	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45 Go straight for Test 2	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45
Year 13	Arrive between 12.00-1.00 Take test 1 Return home	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45 Go straight for Test 2	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45	Arrive 8.25-8.45

Overview of the normal school day (from Tuesday 14th September)

Pupils will be admitted to school between 8.25am and 8.45am. Departure times are staggered, but – without the need to have year groups in bubbles – there will be just two different departure times.

	Arrive between these times	Departure Time
Year 7	8.25-8.45	3.00*
Year 8	8.25-8.45	3.10
Year 9	8.25-8.45	3.00*
Year 10	8.25-8.45	3.10
Year 11	8.25-8.45	3.10
Year 12 and 13	8.25-8.45	3.00

*Any pupil in Year 7 and Year 9 wanting to attend an **extracurricular club** will be able to wait in the Bistro while the rest of the school finishes.



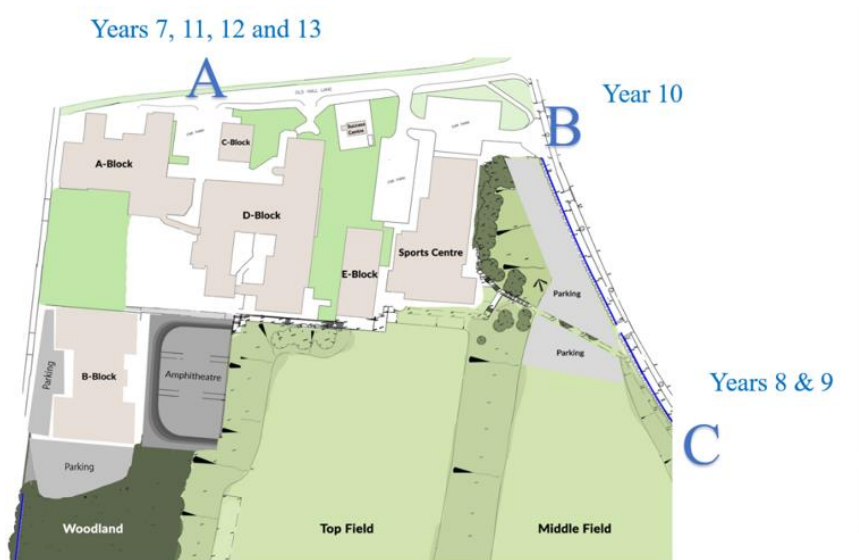
The extensive menu of extracurricular clubs is available [here](#).

Entry points

Years 7, 11, 12 and 13 need to enter school site by the top gate (**Entry Point A** on the map) where they will be directed to sets of sinks for their year groups.

Year 10 need to enter school site through the bus bay (**Entry Point B** on the map).

Year 8 and Year 9 need to enter school site at the bottom gate, leading from Beacon Road (**Entry Point C** on the map).



All entry points will be supervised by Senior Leadership. In line with the government guidance pupils will continue to wash their hands on entry to our school site and hand sanitise whenever entering a classroom or break/lunch venue.

Go straight to form

As soon as they are on school site, all pupils will go straight to their form room where they will be greeted and registered.

Transport to school

Please do not bring your car onto school site. It is dangerous for our children when parents are driving their cars into the car park to pick up children and the risk to children when parents are manoeuvring their cars is significant. Where a car is absolutely necessary, I would ask that parents arrange a safe place for their children to meet them for transport home that does not require parents to park in or near the Sports Hall car park. **Of course, where possible, encourage your children to walk or cycle rather than take public transport. If your child chooses to cycle, please make sure they wear a helmet.**

Buses at the end of the school day

These will be scheduled in a staggered fashion so that Years 7, 9, 12 and 13 take the first set of buses and Years 8, 10 and 11 take the second set, arriving 10 minutes later.



Break times

10.10-10.25	Year 8, 10 and 11
11.10-11.25	Years 7, 9, 12 and 13

From September, pupils will once again be allowed to go outside at break time.

Lunch times and venues

Year 7	1.00-1.30
Year 8	12.30-1.00
Year 9	1.30-2.00
Year 10	1.30-2.00
Year 11	12.30-1.00
Year 12	1.00-1.30
Year 13	1.00-1.30

Pupils in Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 will be on a two week rotation, moving between the Main Hall and the Bistro. A full, varied lunch menu is served in both.

Menus are here: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/bistro-lunchtime-menu/>

Progress Evenings

After overwhelmingly positive parental feedback, we have decided to continue having Progress Evenings virtually. The dates of these are published on our website:

<https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/calendar/>

Nut allergies

Please note that we have several pupils who are severely allergic to nuts and some could even go into anaphylactic shock if exposed. To be considerate to everyone, please do not provide your child with nuts for packed lunch, break, etc.

The rest of this letter consists of reminders of things which have been previously communicated

Uniform

As you are aware, we are very determined to maintain the high standards of uniform with all of our pupils and I thank you for your continued support. We expect that all pupils are looking smart in September and abiding by the school's uniform code. More information regarding school uniform, including the updates which have previously been communicated, can be accessed on the school website: <http://www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk/uniform/>

Any child not in correct school uniform will not be in circulation until their uniform has been corrected.

Punctuality

Pupils in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 will be marked late if they arrive at their form room later than 8.50am.

Attendance

Whilst our attendance is one of the best in the Midlands, some parents take their child from school to take them on holiday during term time. A week's holiday is 25 hours of lost learning time for your child. Be aware that the Education Welfare Service **will** issue a fixed penalty notice and government legislation states that if the fine is not paid within 21 days the fine will increase. Further failure to pay can result in a court appearance.

Equipment

All pupils need a school bag that will hold an A4 folder. Please do not allow your child to have a large handbag for school. Pupils also need to have a pencil case with pens **including a green pen**, pencils, a ruler, a rubber, a pair of compasses, a protractor and a scientific calculator. Most of this equipment is available to buy from the school shop. Please can we ask that your child does not bring scissors into school as these will be provided by staff where necessary.

It is essential that all pupils bring a reading book to school every day.

Mobile Phones

Barr Beacon School is a no mobile phone school for Years 7 – 11. If a pupil is found with a mobile phone, this will be confiscated. Please see the E-Safety and child Safeguarding Policies on the school website.

Please note that Barr Beacon School has the power to search without consent and will **not tolerate any prohibited items** being brought into school.

Our most recent letter about mobile phones is here:

<http://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Mobile-Phone-2020.pdf>

Curriculum resources on our website

You can access curriculum maps, showing what your child will be learning in each subject, here:

<https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/curriculum/>

You can access the homework your child should be completing for each subject by following the below link to the relevant year group. This folder provides a week by week overview with tasks and resources to support your son/daughter doing their homework to the expected standard.

<https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/homework/>



You can access our updated SEND information via the following link:
<https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/send/> Here you will find a number of helpful and informative websites for many different SEND needs as well as a document that explains Exam Access Arrangements.

Free School Meals

If you believe that your child is entitled to free school meals, please make an online application using Link 2 ICT where you will receive instant notification to confirm if your child can access the advantages in school:

<https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/fsm/>

Prescribed Medication

Pupils must not carry any medication on their person. If your child needs to take prescribed medication, please ensure that you have signed it in at the Reception desk. The forms are available under the Publications tab on the school website. Click on the Application forms section to download the form. <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/application-forms/> Paper copies of the form are also available from the school Reception.

Sixth Form Dress Code

Please follow the link with regards to Sixth Form Dress Code:

<https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/dress-code/>

Appointments during school time

Unless absolutely unavoidable, please avoid taking pupils out during the school day for appointments of any kind (e.g. medical, dental). If you do need to take your child out for an appointment, please inform the House office for your child in advance.

Your contact details

It is important that we have your most up-to-date contact details, especially your mobile phone number. Please let us know if anything changes using the Essential Information Amendment Form [HERE](#).

WisePay

Please make sure any debt is cleared and accounts are topped up for September.



Stay safe over the summer

Please reinforce the messages that we regularly give to all pupils about “staying safe”. This includes staying safe in the sun and when taking part in any activities. We have also reminded all pupils to stay safe, not just in the local community but also online. Please see the school website for e-safety information we update regularly as soon as new threats are identified.

If the government change any plans, we will communicate with you as soon as possible.

I hope you all have a great summer and thank you for all of your support during another unusual academic year.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Draycott
Headteacher

