



Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing with details of arrangements for our Sports Day on Wednesday 29th September. You will remember that this is the Sports Day that we postponed from the end of the summer term and it is in addition to the Sports Day that will run at the end of this school year.

Y12 and Y13

Y12 and Y13 students have a study day on 29th September. Mr Birch has explained to the students what they should be doing on this day and it links into the study skills work that students have been following in school.

Some 6th form students are supporting staff in school with the Y7 Sports Day. Thank you very much in advance for the support of the day.

Y7

Y7 have their own Sports Day in school, giving them an opportunity to have the school site to themselves and to have some fun together at the end of a great first month at Notre Dame.

The start and finish of the school day will be the normal times (arrive by 8.55 for a 9am start and finish at 3.35). School busses are running as normal.

Students should come to school in their Notre Dame PE kit. They will be able to buy lunch as normal in the canteen or bring a packed lunch. Students should also bring plenty of water. They should bring their journal, but will not need the books that they would normally bring on a Wednesday.

Students in Y7 will go to form as normal at 9am. Their form tutors will then lead them through the day from there.

Y8 to Y11

Students in Y8 to Y11 will be having Sports Day at the English Institute of Sport (EIS).

Getting to the EIS

If you have given permission for you child(ren) to make their own way to the EIS, then they should arrive there for 9.15. They will be met, registered and shown to the area where they will be with their form during the event.

If you have replied to our survey to ask for a place on a bus from school to the EIS then your child(ren) should arrive at school by 8.55. They should gather on the main yard, from where we will get students onto busses at 9am.



Return from the EIS

If you have given permission for your child(ren) to make their own way home from the EIS, they will be dismissed from 2pm.

If you have replied to our survey to ask for a place on a bus from the EIS to school, then your children will be directed to the busses at the EIS from 2pm. We will get back to school well in time for students who need to catch the school bus home. Those students who have permission to make their own way home from school will be dismissed from school once we return.

Uniform

Students should wear their Notre Dame PE uniform to Sports Day. We will have some spare PE uniform for students who arrive without that full kit.

Water and food

All students need to bring a packed lunch and plenty of water. We will be bringing packed lunches for students eligible for free school meals. Students will not be able to buy food or drink from the EIS, so they should not bring money with them.

Testing and face coverings

It has been wonderful to get back into some of the things that we haven't been able to do for the last 18 months and this Sports Day is another part of that. Of course, COvid is still present and case numbers in the City do remain high, so we will also be taking some sensible measures to balance any potential for increased risk of transmission of the virus.

With this in mind **we will be asking students going to the EIS to wear face coverings while they are in the stands watching the events.** As before we understand that some students are exempt and that there are reasons why some will not be wearing face coverings. If that is your child, please alert your child's form tutor with a note in the journal.

I would also ask you to remind your child to continue with the home testing, particularly if they have got out of the habit. While I understand how frustrating it would be to get a positive test which means your child misses Sports Day, catching that case makes the biggest difference in reducing the chance of other students being at risk of catching the virus. I thank you for your cooperation in this.

Finally, I would ask you to continue to take a cautious approach if your child is ill, even if they don't have Covid symptoms and have a negative LFD test. There are lots of colds and other illnesses at this time of year with symptoms similar to Covid, so I would ask that if your child is unwell, they stay away from school until they feel better. Of course, if they develop Covid symptoms they should go for a PCR test.

Many thanks for your support in these measures to help us balance a full school life with sensible steps to reduce risk of Covid transmission.



A few final reminders

As I noted in my previous letter, unfortunately we cannot admit parents, friends or other family members into school or the EIS to watch Sports Day. Please do not come as we don't want anyone to have a wasted journey.

If there is a reason that your child is not able to attend Sports Day it is essential that you apply for a leave of absence in the normal way before Sports Day. This will be reviewed by Heads of Year who will make a recommendation to me on whether we can authorise the request.

Thank you to all parents who have paid their contribution to help support the costs of Sports Day. Those contributions help to free up school budget for other activities in school. If you intend to contribute but have not yet done so, it would be really helpful if you can do so before Sports Day. Contributions can be made through the 'Trips' section of the Bromcom App.

Thank you also for all parents who have responded to the survey about how your child(ren) in Y8 to Y11 will be getting to and from the EIS. **If you have not responded to say how your child will be getting to and from the EIS, please do respond by Monday 27th September.** We need responses from all parents of students in Y8 to Y11 so that staff at the EIS have a full set of information about how each student is getting there and back. I would also ask that you do not change arrangements last minute as this can lead to mistakes with students not being where they should be or with us finding we don't have sufficient places on busses.

I am very much looking forward to Sports Day after so long not being able to do this sort of thing. It has been great to see students enjoying some simple parts of school life that have been returning since September and I know many of them are particularly looking forward to a great day. Thank you for your support in helping us to run it smoothly, safely and in a really enjoyable way.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Davies