



26 August 2020

Dear Parents

We are really looking forward to welcoming your son into the Upper School for New Boys' Day on Wednesday 2 September. Due to the current circumstances, our school risk assessment dictates that it will not be possible to invite parents to be part of this day. However, we are delighted that we will be able to welcome your son in person, following on from our virtual transition day back in June. We very much hope that he is as excited about his first day as we are!

The schedule for the day is below and we would be grateful if you would complete the linked form to confirm your son's attendance **by Friday 28 August**.

During the afternoon, your son will meet his Housemaster and his year group and vertical Tutors (see more below under **Tutors**) as well as other key staff. Our site orientation will enable him to familiarise himself with where he needs to be for lessons, break times, etc. and there will be opportunity to set up his own device on the school network. All of this is aimed at ensuring your son's first days at Bedford School run as smoothly as possible.

Of course, there will still be questions and concerns that arise so please do not hesitate to contact your son's year group Tutor and Housemaster at any point.

### **Schedule for New Boys' Day:**

12.20: Arrival at Burnaby Road entrance from De Parys Avenue

12.30: Meet the tutor and housemaster

12.50: Lunch

13.30: Carousel of orientation activities (30 minutes each)

- Introductions
- Site orientation
- IT set up and photographs

15.15: Address from the Head Master

15.45: Finish and depart from Burnaby Road

### **Boarders**

Boarders should arrive at their boarding house between 11:00 and 11:30. Unfortunately, parents will not be allowed inside the boarding house, we hope you understand. There will be time for a short induction from the Housemaster and drop-off of luggage to rooms, and then boarders will join the day boys from 12:30.

**Attendance:**

Please complete the form to confirm your son's attendance by following the link below:

[New Boys' Day – Attendance Form](#)

**Pick-up and drop-off:**

The only entry point to the school site will be via the main school entrance on De Parys Avenue. We anticipate that some will arrive via transport (either car or public transport). However, if at all possible, we ask that boys walk or cycle to school. For boys unable to avoid public transport, face masks must be worn. There will be no access via Pemberley Avenue or Glebe Road.

If you are dropping your son off, please do so in Burnaby Road. We ask that parents do not get out of their cars please. If walking or cycling with your son, please do not come on to the school site.

For pick-up, please also collect your son from Burnaby Road. We will have the boys ready by the designated time. You will need to be seen before your son is released. Please let us know if you have made alternative arrangements, such as allowing him to walk or cycle home (via the section in the attendance form).

**Medical:**

If we need to be aware of any medical issues, please add this information to the relevant section in the attendance form. We will have a school nurse on site during the afternoon.

**Refreshments:**

A school lunch will be provided in the Dining Hall. Drinks will also be provided during the course of the afternoon.

**Toilets:**

The toilets downstairs in the Langham Pavilion will be open for boys' use.

**Items to bring:**

We ask that boys bring their own hand sanitiser gel with them and use it on arrival in Burnaby Road. Gel will also be provided and use of this will be a regular requirement throughout the session. Use of face masks and gloves is permitted but not required.

Boys should bring their own device (laptop / tablet) with them as there will be opportunity during the afternoon to ensure these are set up to use the school WiFi and email.

**What to wear:**

Please ensure that your son is wearing full school uniform.

**Illness:**

If your son displays any signs of COVID-19 then please do not bring him into school. Guidelines on symptoms and necessary actions are [here](#).

**Tutors:**

Normally, tutor groups at Bedford School are structured vertically, meaning that there are boys from different year groups in the same tutor group. However, while we are operating year group 'bubbles', we will be using temporary 'horizontal' tutor groups consisting of boys who are all in the same year group. There will, therefore, be a change of Tutor, from the Tutor to whom your son was originally assigned, to a temporary replacement Tutor. The new tutor groups will still be arranged in Houses in order to retain as much continuity of pastoral care as possible. Your son will be notified of and meet their new year-group Tutor on New Boys Day who, along with your son's Housemaster, will be in contact with you during the first week of term to introduce themselves.

Once the current restrictions are lifted, we anticipate returning to the vertical tutor group system and your son will, at that point, revert to the Tutor to whom he was originally assigned.

Should you have any queries about the afternoon or about the term ahead, please do not hesitate to contact your son's Housemaster.

Best wishes on behalf of the Housemaster team,



**Mr Chris Bury**  
Senior Boarding Housemaster



**Mr Simon Everitt**  
Senior Day Housemaster