



THE PINES SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Miss Emma Pearce, B.Ed. (Hons), MEd, AdvDipEd

18th June 2021

Dear families

I hope this finds you well. Just when we thought sunnier days were here – the sun hides!

Firstly, can I begin for thanking you all for the support shown with regards to the sudden death of Shahdab. As you will have picked up it was a really difficult time for the staff team, he really was a character who had built relationships with all people in school. We really appreciate your understanding with the decision we made to close the school for his funeral.

COVID update:

You will be aware that the roadmap for exiting COVID restrictions has changed and it is unlikely that they will be easing before the children break up for the summer. Whilst this is disappointing for us all it does mean that we are having to revise a few things in school.

There will be a letter coming home early next week advising those families of parents in year 6 about the changes that we are going to have to make to the leavers production taking into consideration the guidelines around gatherings.

Similarly, we are looking at transition plans and how to best manage these, again we will write to you in due course to share these with you but we will ensure that it is done as carefully as it possibly can. We have been advised by Public health that transitions should be managed differently this year.

Birmingham is one of the cities that is constantly in the spotlight as the infection rates fluctuate quite dramatically. As such we have been asked to remind all people of the following measures that are still in place.

- Regular cleaning in school, frequent hand washing and the use of small “bubbles” remain
- Parents are respectfully asked to remember the 2 metre social distancing rule as much as possible when on site
- Visitors to the school remain restricted however if necessary there are stringent measures in place that have to be adhered to.
- PPE is worn in school in line with the current guidance

In addition, we still have to comply with the legal regulations around self-isolation for contacts of a positive case and the measures in place if ANY one symptom is noted. If a child has any of the following symptoms we have to contact carers and ask that they come and collect the children and arrange for a PCR test (undertaken at a test centre or a postal test)

- Raised temperature
- New / persistent cough
- Change to taste or smell

If any symptom is noted an LFT (home kit) cannot be used. An LFT is only effective when no symptoms are present.

Shared access

The main driveway into school is shared access driveway between us, the gym and Stockland Green. We have been made aware of some issues arising with some pupils from Stockland Green and we are in talks with the leadership team there. Many thanks to those parents who have been vigilant and reported issues to us. They have been shared with the school directly and will be followed up.



Birmingham Special Schools'
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Term dates for next year

Autumn Term 2021

School opens: Thursday 2 September 2021

Training day – closed for pupils Thursday 2nd September 2021

School closes: Friday 22nd October.

Training day – closed for pupils Friday 22nd October 2021

Half Term: Monday 25th October 2021 to Friday 29th October 2021

School opens: 1st November 2021

School Closes: Friday 17th December 2021

Christmas holidays Monday 20th December 2021 – Monday 3rd January 2022

Spring Term 2022

School opens: Tuesday 4 January 2022

Training day – closed for pupils Tuesday 4th January 2022

School Closes: Friday 18th February 2022

Half Term: Monday 21 February 2022 to Friday 25 February 2022

School opens: Monday 28th February 2022

School closes: Friday 8 April 2022

Easter Holidays Monday 11th April 2022 – Friday 22nd April 2022

Summer Term 2022

School opens: Monday 25 April 2022

School closes: Friday 27th May 2022

Half Term: Monday 30 May 2022 to Friday 3 June 2022

School opens: Monday 6th June 2022

School closes: Friday 22nd July 2022

Training day – closed for pupils 21st and 22nd July

Summer holidays Monday 25th July 2022 – Friday 2nd September 2022

Changes to school meals

There has been some amendments to the menus in school, we are sharing these with you for information.

As ever, many thanks for your continued support in school. It has proved to be another tricky year and the support of our school community has been a real strength and has made it all that little bit easier to manage.

Have a lovely weekend.

Many thanks



Emma Pearce



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