



# INTHEKNOW

Friday, 23 October 2020

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## **ARKS Celebration**

Congratulations to the Year 7 students pictured above, who have received 12 merits: 3 for Ambition, 3 for Respect, 3 for Kindness and 3 for Safety. We are pleased to present these students with their first blazer badge ARKS and a certificate of achievement. Well done!  
#makingfairfaxproud

## **COVID-19 Tests**

Please be reminded that if your child has a COVID-19 test due to having symptoms, they must not return to school until the test result is received. We do not require evidence of a negative test, but do require evidence of a positive result.

## **PTA**

The next PTA Virtual meeting is on Monday, 2 November 18:00. Please email [pta@fairfax.bham.sch.uk](mailto:pta@fairfax.bham.sch.uk) to confirm your attendance and request a link to the virtual meeting. All welcome.

## **Water Fountain Use**

A reminder notice: students are only allowed to use water fountains to replenish their personal water bottles. No other use is allowed. Students must wash or sanitize their hands before using a water fountain.

### **Wet and Cold Winter Weather**

A reminder notice: as students are bubbled, and spend much of their time in the same classroom, we are keen to ensure that students are able to get outside and get some fresh air at break and lunchtime.

During wet and cold weather, we would ask that you **equip your child with a waterproof coat and/or umbrella** in order to ensure they are able to have a break outside. We know that being in the fresh air benefits well-being. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Assistant Head of Year or Head of Year.

In addition, as we move into winter, we will need to keep classrooms well ventilated and ask that students are sent to school with appropriate plain base layers and a black V-neck jumper. Hoodies are not acceptable and remain a prohibited item in school.

### **PE Lessons – Winter Months**

A reminder notice: with the colder months ahead, we kindly remind parents that students are permitted to wear the following to keep them warm during PE lessons:

- Girls are allowed to wear black base layers underneath their PE skort and House polo shirt along with their black Fairfax fleece.
- Boys are allowed to wear long sleeved black base layer underneath their PE tops, and base layer black shorts under their shorts. Alongside this, the boys' mid layer is available at Clive Mark and Crested Schoolwear (Trutex Erdington).

YEAR 7

A reminder notice: that students in Year 7 will have a slight change to their school day after half-term. Their break time will move from 09:55 to 10:35, and their lunch time from 12:15 to 12:45.

A reminder notice: that a Year 7 Parents' Evening will now take place on Wednesday, 4 November 2020. Due to Covid-19 restrictions this will not be a face-to-face Parents' Evening. A member of staff who teaches your child will call you on the telephone during the evening, between 15:45 and 18:45 to discuss how your child has settled in to Fairfax.

A reminder notice: that students in Year 7 will mix only with their class bubble once on school site. Appropriate sanctions will be issued to students who break bubbles.

YEAR 8

A reminder notice: that students in Year 8 will be set following half-term. The teaching sets will allow teachers to plan lessons more sensitively matched to the group's ability. Lesson and day timings are unchanged.

**Please note new 'bubble' designated rooms will be individually emailed during the half-term break. Students should proceed directly to their designated room at 08:40 on Monday, 2 November 2020.**

A reminder notice: that students in Year 8 will mix only with their class bubble once on school site. Appropriate sanctions will be issued to students who break bubbles.

An advance notice: as a result of changes to the Year 8 bubbles, the Year 8 Parents' Evening in the Spring Term will now be over two evenings, Wednesday, 20 January and Wednesday, 3 February 2021.

YEAR 9

A reminder notice: that students in Year 9 will be set following half-term. The teaching sets will allow teachers to plan lessons more sensitively matched to the group's ability. In addition, Year 9 will also become a year bubble, and this will mean that from Monday, 2 November, students will be able to purchase food from The Refectory at lunch time. The offer is limited but there are hot 'grab' options each day. There will be some changes to the Year 9 day in order to allow for five one-hour lessons with no interruption. The Year 9 break time will move from 09:35 to 09:55 and will be on the main playground. Lunch will move from 12:45 to 12:15 and will also be on the main playground.

**Please note new 'bubble' designated rooms will be individually emailed during the half-term break. Students should proceed directly to their designated room at 08:40 on Monday, 2 November 2020.**

A reminder notice: please be advised that the Year 9 Options Evening (Virtual) due to take place on Tuesday, 20 October 2020 has been re-scheduled to week beginning Monday, 9 November 2020. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, parents will receive a link to a presentation from the Head of Academy.

An advance notice: as a result of changes to the Year 9 bubble, Parents' Evening will move to Spring Term 1, and be over two evenings, Wednesday, 20 January and Wednesday, 3 February 2021. This will allow teachers to get to know students in the new teaching sets.

YEAR 10

A reminder notice: that students in Year 10 will have core lessons in a set bubble, but will also attend options subjects. This is essential to ensure students can continue to study their curriculum. Year 10 will have a mixed breaktime and lunchtime with other Year 10 students.

**Please note the following core group room changes for Autumn Term 2:**

**10GF1 – new room A11**

**10GF2 – new room A13**

**10GF4 – new room A12**

**10GFA – new room B2**

**Students in these groups should proceed directly to their new designated room at 08:55 on Monday, 2 November 2020.**

A reminder notice: students in Year 10 wishing to complete the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award this year, have received a letter explaining the procedures for registration and completion. Payments can now be made on ParentPay.

YEAR 11

A reminder notice: that students in Year 11 have their mock examinations commencing on Monday, 2 November until Friday, 13 November 2020.

A reminder notice: that students in Year 11 will have core lessons in a set bubble, but will also attend options subjects. This is essential to ensure students can continue to study their curriculum. Year 11 will have a mixed breaktime and lunchtime with other Year 11 students.

**Please note the following core group room changes for Autumn Term 2:**

**11GF4 – new room B13**

**11GF5 – new room B12**

**11GX3 – new room B1**

**11GX4 – new room B18**

**11GX5 – new room B11**

**Students in these groups should proceed directly to their new designated room at 08:55 on Monday, 2 November 2020.**

A reminder notice: students in Year 11 wishing to complete the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award this year, have received a letter explaining the procedures for registration and completion. Payments can now be made on ParentPay.

YEAR 12

A reminder notice: we have had reports that students are not socially distancing in the community during lunchtimes; could you please remind your child of the importance of this.

A reminder notice: Year 12 should only attend school for their timetabled lessons, which will include some in-year group mixing. Year 12 should arrive onsite for their first lesson of the day and leave site following their final lesson of the day. Year 12 must sign out when they leave the school site during the day. For private study/home study, please note that if you are unable to go home to study during the day, you should go to the sixth form workrooms for your private study sessions.

A reminder notice: students in Year 12 wishing to complete the Duke of Edinburgh's Award this year, have received a letter explaining the procedures for registration and completion. Payments can now be made on ParentPay.

YEAR 13

A reminder notice: we have had reports that students are not socially distancing in the community during lunchtimes; could you please remind your child of the importance of this.

A reminder notice: Year 13 should only attend school for their timetabled lessons, which will include some in-year group mixing. Year 13 should arrive onsite for their first lesson of the day and leave site following their final lesson of the day. Year 13 must sign out when they leave the school site during the day. For Private Study/Home Study, please note that if you are unable to go home to study during the day, you should go to the sixth form workrooms for your private study sessions.

A reminder notice: students wishing to apply to UCAS must ensure that they start their application on <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate>. If you have any questions regarding how to set up your application please speak to Ms Gray or Miss Gardner in the Sixth Form.

A reminder notice: students in Year 13 wishing to complete the Duke of Edinburgh's Award this year, have received a letter explaining the procedures for registration and completion. Payments can now be made on ParentPay.