



WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL  
HIGHGATE ROAD  
LONDON  
NW5 1RN

ACTING HEADTEACHER: MS IZZY JONES

TEL: 020 7267 9346

FAX: 020 7284 1274

info@williamellis.camden.sch.uk

16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear families

I write first of all with a thank you to you all for your efforts to help us provide high quality education to our students. We have seen an improvement this week in student attendance and punctuality to school, as well as the number of students who are coming properly equipped with uniform or PE kit and for lessons. As we go into the final week before half term this supports them in having successful, enjoyable and productive days in school.

### Remote learning

We also have 85% of students who are now accessing Microsoft Teams regularly to access and complete their homework, and our recent student voice survey indicates that for young people at home the regular digital access provides them with support and independent learning tasks. The students who had been isolating for two weeks also told us that they felt best supported by a mixture of independent work, structured online content and live interactions with their teacher. This is valuable information and will inform our provision going forward.

If a student is struggling to log in to Microsoft Teams at home, or they do not have a device with a keyboard (e.g. laptop or computer) to do this from, please contact their form tutor so that we can provide additional support. This is critical in making sure that we can support students if they do have to miss school at any point during this year.

### Year 11 times of the day

To support Year 11 with developing their study skills and curriculum catch up, we have decided to make changes to the school day for Year 11. From Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, Year 11 will re-start registration in the morning and so will need to be in school for an 8:35am registration. They will also register in the afternoon.

This means that students in Years 7-11 will arrive and depart school at the following times from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October onwards:

	Arrive at school by	Depart from
Years 7 and 11	8:35am	3:10pm
Years 8 and 9	8:35am	3:05pm
Year 10	8:50am	3:20pm
6 <sup>th</sup> form	As detailed in LaSWAP communication (no change)	

The reason for the continued staggered start is to help TfL maintain less congested bus services. Students should walk to school if they can – certainly if they live 1km away or less.

### Mask wearing

As you know, the government have now moved London to a higher coronavirus alert level – we attach further information from Camden Council. We are aware that some students feel more confident when wearing face coverings and when others do. Whilst we have been advised that brief contact in corridors within bubbles is relatively safe, **face coverings are a sensible precautionary measure to protect people in the school.** Students travelling on public transport should have a face mask with them every day. Disposable face coverings are only designed to be used for a very short period of time and certainly not for a whole day. We are recommending that students have a number of reusable face coverings which can be washed regularly. If your child is wearing a face mask, please watch this video with them [WHO: how to wear a face mask safely](#).

This is a guide to when we are suggesting that masks are worn in and around the main school:

<b>Times and places when a mask could be worn</b>	<b>Please don't wear a mask</b>
On public transport to and from school	Walking along the street
Walking through school in the corridors	Outside in the playground
Coming in to lessons, library, the assembly hall	Sat down in a lesson, library, assembly hall
Going through the canteen	
<b>In summary.....</b>	
When you're indoors and not in a seat	When you're outdoors, or sat down indoors

There are no changes to arrangements in 6<sup>th</sup> form building.

### **Non-uniform day**

Our last day of the half term, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, will be a non-uniform day to raise money for Kentish Town Food Bank, which provides vital support for our local community. Students should bring £1 to school to donate. The food bank offers store cupboard items such as tinned fruit, vegetables, pasta, rice, beans, milk and cereals to people in need. If you would like to make an additional donation to this cause from your family, their website is <https://www.ktcc.org.uk/ktcc-foodbank> For any families who may need support, they should call 0207 482 3212 to book an appointment.

### **Preparing for half term**

In Camden, there are some **half-term holiday activities** being planned by our local youth and play centres, details of which are on [the Camden Rise website](#). This will be updated as more activities for children and young people are announced in the run-up to the October half-term (26 to 30 October) and you will be kept in the loop via this bulletin. Recently announced programmes include some [online and face to face creative courses, run by Camden Summer University](#), with limited places bookable through [the CSU website](#).

### **Flu jabs in schools – update**

The national winter flu immunisation campaign is now underway. We are not able to provide flu vaccinations in school, but the North Central London CCG is working to promote flu vaccinations for families and children. Please do watch these videos to give you more explanation.

- Arabic - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GtDAZ53s8HI>
- Bengali - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4UedRgAF9w>
- Polish - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mZLKZb1jGM>
- Somali - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfehUbl9U0U>
- Spanish - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RC7FoQRWetU>
- Turkish – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d8gZ68bCTwA>
- English - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1VYZCE0wwkk>
- Subtitled version - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S93ZQbuEBvA>

### **Open Events**

The school welcomed over 60 families (socially distanced) to the school on Wednesday evening. This event followed an earlier Open Evening and three Open Mornings. We will be running a zoom Q&A event for those parents who came along but would like some more information about our school and for those families that were unsuccessful in booking for one of the events. Families with siblings currently in Year 6 are very welcome to register for Wednesday's zoom Q&A by completing this form: [Booking form Q&A 21.10.20](#)

Yours faithfully



Ms Izzy Jones  
Acting Headteacher