

# WOODHOUSE GROVE SCHOOL

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10 August 2020

Dear Parents

I very much hope that you and your families have managed to find time for some rest, relaxation and recharge over what has been a very strange summer. Further to my End of Term letter, I write to you with an update over the preparations for the full re-opening of the school in September.

We are very much working towards and looking forward to having all our children in school, full-time, from the scheduled Beginning of Term start date on Thursday 03 September 2020. More details will follow in due course outlining the kind of measures we will be employing to meet Government guidance and safeguard the health and wellbeing of the whole school community. However, for the time being, I am sure you would like to know that we are preparing for a full school return that is as near as we can get to normal. As anticipated, we intend to operate in bubbles with discrete entrances and zones allocated for each Year Group. Whilst mealtime arrangements will be different from the normal routines, we will be providing lunch for the whole school and breakfast and tea to those day pupils who request it. This week our detailed plans and risk assessments will be shared with all staff. This will allow for their refinement as necessary before publication to you by the end of next week.

There has been some speculation over whether or not students will be expected to wear school uniform. I can confirm that this will be the case. The uniform shop has been very busy with a large number of appointments having been booked and a healthy number of online orders being placed. For further details, please click on the following link which will take you to the F. R. Monkhouse Ltd website: <https://www.monkhouse.com/c/221/Woodhouse-Grove>

Owing to concerns over multiple use, supervision, social distancing, and potential cross contamination across Year Group bubbles, initially, changing rooms will not be used during the course of the normal school day. This being the case, on the days when students have PE or Games lessons during curriculum time, they will be expected to attend school in sports kit. For the avoidance of doubt, for Years 7-11 this means school PE kit. PE kit for girls consists of a Gilbert navy skort or shorts and a Gilbert white polo shirt. PE kit for boys consists of Gilbert navy shorts and a Gilbert white polo shirt. We will expect boys and girls to have their legs covered during normal lesson time with school Gilbert navy tracksuit trousers being worn. On top of the standard white polo shirt, students will be able to wear a Gilbert navy top which can be either a ¼ zip fleece, ¼ zip navy raincoat or a navy contact top. No Hoodies will be permitted.

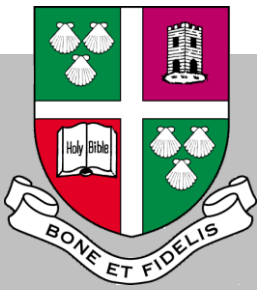
On a Wednesday, when senior students in Years 12 and 13 have Games lessons, they should come into school wearing their Games kit underneath their school tracksuit. If a student does not have a navy school tracksuit, then they must wear a **plain coloured** tracksuit. We will not accept students wearing any hooded jumpers or tight-fitting leggings or tops to school. All students must wear a pair of tracksuit trousers. Replica sports shirts will also be prohibited. We will continue to review our policies and protocols regarding changing room usage. However, for the time being, this is the approach that we wish to implement at the commencement of the

Apperley Bridge, West Yorkshire, BD10 0NR  
[enquiries@woodhousegrove.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@woodhousegrove.co.uk)

*I am Grovian.*



Woodhouse Grove School is part of the Methodist Independent Schools Trust.  
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new term. All students engaged in after school sporting activities will have access to changing room facilities. **There is no requirement or expectation for students to come to school in PE/Games kit on the days when they have an after school commitment; they should attend school in uniform.**

In amongst providing you with some positive news over school re-opening, I am afraid to report that that the long awaited junction improvement works at Greengates started on the 27 July 2020 and will run for an incredible 64 weeks. The council and main contractor have confirmed that road users should expect disruption to travel throughout the works. Those families who use the road network around Greengates will need to allow more time to travel to and from school and perhaps may need to consider using alternative routes, school buses, or the train. I can confirm school buses will be running as normal from September.

I anticipate the school being able to provide you with more detailed guidance over our plans for the start of the new academic year during the course of the next ten days.

In the meantime, thank you in advance for your patience, understanding and continued support.

With all my best wishes,

Yours sincerely

**James Lockwood MA**  
Headmaster

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