



CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Frances Mary Buss Foundation

Headteacher: **Kateryna Law**

Sandall Road, London NW5 2DB

Tel: 020 7485 3414

Website: www.camdengirls.camden.sch.uk



Main School:

Email: csg@csg.school

Sixth Form

Email: sixth@csg.school

1 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Covid-19 Protocols

I am writing to you to provide information regarding how the school will operate from September 2021 in the new COVID-19 climate. It is our aim to keep everyone in our school community as safe as we can whilst providing a high quality education to our students. Given the changes in the government guidance, we have adapted our practice to fall in line with the latest operational guidelines. Please find below some important information.

Testing

At the start of the Autumn Term, all students will take two Lateral flow tests in school, several days apart. Testing will begin on Friday 3 September and will take place according to the schedule below:

- Friday 3 September – Year 7, 8, 9 and 10.
- Monday 6 September – Year 11
- Tuesday 7 September - Year 7 and Year 8
- Wednesday 8 September – Year 9, 10 and 11

A copy of the times is on the school website. Please help us ensure that your daughter knows the time of her test.

If your daughter receives a positive lateral flow test, she will need to self-isolate in line with government guidelines and take a PCR test.

Following the testing in school, your daughter should then continue to test twice weekly at home using lateral flow tests until the end of September when the government will review this expectation.

Positive Cases

Anyone with a confirmed COVID-19 case must not come into school. If your daughter has symptoms of COVID-19, please keep her at home. If your daughter develops symptoms during the school day, she will be sent home. It is recommended that a PCR test is taken as soon as possible.

Tracing close contacts and isolation

If a positive COVID-19 case is identified in school, close contacts will now be traced through NHS Test and Trace rather than the school itself. This means that large numbers of students will not need to be sent home. Instead a few close contacts may be asked to isolate. This should mean that there is less disruption to education.

If identified as a close contact, individuals are not required to self-isolate if:

- They are fully vaccinated
- They are below the age of 18 and 6 months
- They are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons



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- They have taken part in an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial.

Instead, individuals who fall into the above categories will be informed that they are a close contact and advised to take a PCR test.

Bubbles

There is no longer an expectation for students to be taught in bubbles. This means your daughter will experience lessons in a range of classrooms in the usual way. This will also mean that specialist rooms will be used once again, enhancing the effective delivery of practical subjects such as Art, Design and Technology and Science practicals.

This will also mean that whole school assemblies will resume and lunchtime arrangements will be back to normal. We will also return to the usual timings to the start and end of the school day.

Face coverings

We will follow government guidance which states that face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors in the classroom or in communal areas. Students or staff might choose to wear a face covering at certain times if this makes themselves or others feel more comfortable and we respect the rights of individuals to feel safe. We would continue to encourage the wearing of face masks in crowded places where you may come into contact with people you do not normally meet, such as on public transport to school.

Hygiene measures and ventilation

The school continues to follow increased hygiene measures with additional cleaning in place. These measures include:

- Recommendations for frequent and thorough hand cleaning
- Enhanced cleaning protocols of school equipment and high touch areas
- Well ventilated teaching environments with open doors and windows where possible

Our comprehensive risk assessment considers carefully how to keep all areas of the school well ventilated, especially as we move into the colder months through the Autumn Term. We will keep our risk assessment under regular review and will inform you of any necessary changes.

I appreciate that this is still a worrying time for many and I would like to assure you that we have put all feasible measures in place to ensure the safety of our school community. We are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back.

Kind regards

Kateryna Law
Headteacher