



**BISHOPSTROW
COLLEGE**

A pathway to excellence

Readiness for Re-opening Term 1 2020/21



www.bishopstrow.com



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Introduction

Looking ahead to September 2020 we plan to be open. The College follows a four-term academic year, with Term 1 commencing on 22nd September and as a result, we have plenty of time to prepare and ensure the start of the new academic year at Bishopstrow College is safe for all students and staff. It is with this in mind that we have prepared this 'readiness for Re-opening' brochure, to reassure you all that we take the safety and wellbeing of the Bishopstrow community extremely seriously.

The situation in the UK is clearly evolving and as such, our plans may change. We will of course keep agents, parents and prospective parents informed and update this brochure, as and where required.

Location and Campus

Bishopstrow College is set in 8 acres of beautiful grounds, with extensive gardens and playing fields, in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Surrounded by clean country air and green space, students are encouraged to spend plenty of time outdoors. We are fortunate to have ample space, particularly during Term 1, where enrolments are traditionally lower, including capacity that can be utilised across our four boarding houses and several common rooms.

"The school is based in Barrow House, a large house on an eight-acre site in Bishopstrow, close to the market town of Warminster. There is a football pitch as well as other grass areas for sports, and a multipurpose, all-weather court for games. The school grounds are extensive and attractive. The school buildings and the eight-acre site provide an attractive and spacious environment for students and staff"

British Council 2016



Pastoral Care

We take our students' safety and welfare extremely seriously. We aim to create a safe, warm and fun learning environment that prepares students from a wide range of nationalities for a seamless and happy transition to a British boarding school. The College has five core virtues that underpin everything within the community. These virtues are: being organised; being a team player; being kind; being hard-working; and being polite.



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"Pastoral care is of a very high standard. All members of staff have a role to play in caring for the students. Effective channels of communication between teaching and boarding staff ensure that any pastoral problems are quickly identified and addressed. New children are paired with a 'buddy' to whom they can go with any minor queries and concerns."

British Council 2016

Social Distancing

If social distancing becomes part of college life in Term 1, it will be managed practically and effectively and will include staggered meal times, a review of weekend activities, with a focus on local trips avoiding highly populated areas, a maximum number of students and staff congregating at any one time and guidance on socialising in the College. With no day students, there are few visitors to the College. Visitors will, however be restricted.

Students enrolled at Bishopstrow benefit from small, interactive classes. We will also consider having some classes outside during September (when we will be enjoying some late summer sunshine), utilising the available space on campus.



Health and Student Services

We will continue to uphold the highest of standards in hygiene, health and safety in order to mitigate the risk of infection and to care for our students in a supportive, comfortable environment.



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The College has an on-site medical room and boarding staff are first-aid trained and oversee the medical care of all students on a day-to-day basis. All students are also registered with the local GP, should they need to consult a doctor. The College will make appointments where appropriate and accompany students to the surgery.

“Arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils by means that pay due regard to current statutory guidance; health and safety requirements are met. Suitable provision is made for boarders’ medical and health care.”

ISI 2018



Boarding

At Bishopstrow College, our boarding team’s top priority is to ensure that our students are happy, healthy and well cared for, allowing them to achieve their full potential academically, socially and physically. Boarding at Bishopstrow offers a happy and vibrant family environment, where residential staff supervise and nurture students to ensure their comfort and safety at all times.

Our housekeeping team cleans each room and common rooms on a daily basis. We will also ensure regular sanitisation of communal areas.

We will manage the arrival of international students in September 2020 in a caring and safe manner and with a focus on student welfare. This commitment reflects the expected situation in the Autumn, but may well change before September 2020, to reflect advice from the UK Government or the Boarding Schools Association.



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"Boarding accommodation is adequate for the needs of all boarders and safeguards and promotes their welfare."

ISI 2018

"All rooms are inspected by boarding staff and cleaned every day."

British Council, 2016

Testing

We will explore the options to administer an external test for Covid-19 for all students on arrival and again at regular intervals in the first 14 days, subject to government guidance/regulation and commercial test availability. We will test all staff likewise. Temperature checks will also form part of our regular monitoring of student health.

Should it be necessary for students to remain in college buildings for a period of up to 14 days after arriving in the UK (i.e., a period of 'quarantine'), then this will be carried out within the comfort of our own student residences, with students cared for by our staff and given all meals as usual. Any such arrangement will also include access to Bishopstrow Online, the College's online learning programme and activities. In order to do this, we may change our term dates and timetable to make this arrangement more practical. For example, we might require international students to arrive before the start of Term 1.

Personal Protection

Students and staff will be advised to wear masks that cover nose and mouth. They will also be advised to wash their hands regularly and to use the sanitising gel provided before each class, before meals and on entering any College building and to use any other PPE as relevant to the activity undertaken and as directed by College staff.

The College buildings will undergo a 'deep clean' before the start of Term 1. All classroom, laboratory, dining room and common area surfaces will be cleaned throughout the working day. Students will be required to keep their own rooms tidy.

"There is good provision for the safeguarding of students under the age of 18 at all times of the day: during lesson times and out-of-class activities and in their accommodation. Care of under 18s is an area of strength"

British Council 2016



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