

## Dear Parents



It is with great pleasure that due to the updated Government Guidance, our return to school this academic year will be a significant step towards normality, though of course we remain very aware that the pandemic is not yet over and that it continues to impact on our day-to-day lives, albeit in different ways than in the last 18 months.

In light of the changes outlined by the government in their latest guidance for schools, we are continuing to review our risk assessments in preparation for the new term, as well as preparing our own contingency plans should there be circumstances which require the school to take further action in the event of an increase in positive cases at school. We will provide further guidance on these matters in due course.

The biggest changes in school from last year will be that:

- Year groups will no longer be in consistent 'bubbles' which means that we will be able to hold assemblies in person, attend whole school assemblies at the Senior School and hold other communal activities. Breaktimes, lunchtimes, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, Birds and Owls will resume with pupils from mixed year groups. (Playground zones will no longer be in place.)
- Inter-school sports fixtures and other activities will start again.

This comes with huge benefits as the girls can establish friendships across the school and moreover, the sense of community will be strengthened. I am also very much looking forward to inviting you in for school events such as our Meet the Staff Evening on Thursday 9 September, class assemblies and performances.

Whilst we welcome all of these changes, many of the principles and protocols which were in place last year will continue to ensure that the school remains safe and to reduce the risk of the school having to close due to an outbreak in school. This will include:

- *Minimising contact with anyone who is unwell with Covid-19 or becomes unwell with Covid-19 whilst in school*

If your child has Covid symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19, please continue to follow the quarantine advice. If your child is ill at school with suspected Covid-19 symptoms, she will be isolated and you will be called by our Welfare Assistant or School Nurse. Please may I take this opportunity to ask you to ensure that your child's medical details on Schoolbase are kept up to date and edited when necessary. Can I also remind you that if your child is required to quarantine or self-isolate they must not come into school until this concludes.

In the case of a positive Covid-19 case in school, we will contact NHS Test and Trace and take advice from them accordingly. The Government advice is that Test and Trace will undertake contact tracing in future, rather than the school, and will inform parents and pupils if a child needs to self isolate.

- *Encouraging frequent cleaning/sanitising of hands and good respiratory hygiene for staff and pupils alike*

We have a clear protocol for hand sanitising and Form Teachers will go through and remind pupils of this on the first morning of term. We continue to expect that all pupils will sanitise their hands on entry and exit from lessons, lunch and other activities. The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' mantra is also promoted around school.

- *Having enhanced cleaning in place throughout the school*

We continue to employ an increased number of cleaners on site to ensure that key areas of the school, especially shared areas, are cleaned more regularly during the day. In addition, extra cleaning protocols remain in place for shared equipment.

- *Asymptomatic Testing of Staff*

In line with government guidelines, we will be expecting all staff to undertake two supervised Lateral Flow Device tests (LFDs) at the start of term. They will then undertake twice weekly testing at home until the end of September, when the Government plans to review this measure.

We do not anticipate that the government will be issuing any new guidelines in advance of the start of term but we will of course let you know as soon as we hear of any changes that may impact on the school.

### Morning and Collection Times and Gates

As we no longer have to social distance, you can drop off your daughter and collect her without having to queue. As the staggered drop off times help with parking and congestion around the village, these will continue. When planning your journey to and from school, please do read the latest Transport for London and government <https://tfl.gov.uk/campaign/safer-travel-guidance>.

Please also be aware that Thames Water are currently undertaking major work on Highgate Hill to repair some broken drains. This prevents buses and cars from entering the village and accessing the school from the south end of Highgate Hill.

These are the drop off and collection times and gates:

Lessons/assemblies start for all: 8.30am
Reception (side gate): 8.05 - 8.15am Years 1 & 2 (big gate): 8.05 - 8.15am Years 3 & 4 (side gate) 8.15 - 8.25am Years 5 & 6 (big gate) 8.15 - 8.25am

End of day (Monday - Thursday)	End of day (Friday)
Reception (big gate): 3.00 - 3.10pm Years 1 (side gate): 3.10 - 3.20pm Year 2 (big gate): 3.10 - 3.20pm Years 3 (side gate): 3.30 - 3.35pm Year 4 (big gate): 3.30 - 3.35pm Years 5 (side gate): 3.35 - 3.40pm Years 6 (big gate): 3.35 - 3.40pm	Reception (big gate): 2.50 - 3.00pm Years 1 (side gate): 3.00 - 3.10pm Year 2 (big gate): 3.00 - 3.10pm Years 3 (side gate): 3.20 - 3.25pm Year 4 (big gate): 3.20 - 3.25pm Years 5 (side gate): 3.25 - 3.30pm Years 6 (big gate): 3.25 - 3.30pm

### Uniform and Presentation

Please ensure that your daughter returns to school in the correct uniform; this includes a House coloured Book Bag in Reception - Year 3 or a Channing rucksack from Year 3. Please see the uniform list on our website: [Channing Junior School |Uniform List 2021](#). There is a new hat and scarf for when it gets colder. If your daughter's hair is longer than her shoulders it must be tied back using brown, black or Channing blue hair ties, bands and/or clips. No nail varnish or



jewellery should be worn unless for religious reasons and only small plain gold earring studs are permitted.



All girls need to bring a named water bottle, sunhat and sunscreen in their school bag. The girls may also bring their own hand sanitiser, although they will be guided and asked to wash their hands very regularly throughout the day and there are also numerous sanitisation points around the school.

## Religious Holidays Form

Please complete this form outlining the days your daughter will be absent from school due to religious observance: [Religious Holidays Form](#).



## Permissions

### Trip Consent

We require all parents to indicate their consent regarding trips on Schoolbase. More information can be found in the Parent Portal User Guide linked below.

### Walking Home & Mobile Phone Consent

For parents of girls in Year 5 & Year 6, please indicate via Schoolbase if your daughter(s) has permission to walk home alone. This can be specified by day or as full consent. Please also provide consent if you wish for your daughter(s) to bring a mobile phone into school.

### Photography Consent

During your daughter's time at Channing, we may wish to take photographs of activities that involve her. The photographs may be used for displays, publications and our website/social media by us, by the Local Education Authority or by local newspapers. We require all parents to inform us via Schoolbase whether or not they consent to such use of photography for their daughter(s). More information regarding photography consent is available in the appendix of the Parent Portal User Guide linked below.

*Please ensure all permissions are completed on Schoolbase by Friday 17 September 2021.* Information about how to complete this can be found in the [Parent Portal User Guide \(click on link\)](#). For information on how to access Schoolbase or support regarding SchoolBase, please email: [schoolbasesupport@channing.co.uk](mailto:schoolbasesupport@channing.co.uk).

## Photography Policy

Many parents give permission for THE SCHOOL to take photographs and record performances of pupils which may be used in publicity materials, for press reports or on the website or social media accounts.

Families are respectfully advised that they DO NOT have permission to film or take photographs of other people's children, nor of members of staff.

We are mindful of parents' wishes to have an occasional record of memorable events in which their daughters participate and to that end, we will try to provide "photo opportunities" for the audience at the end of a performance or event.

All photography is *strictly forbidden* in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

All visitors will be reminded of our policy at the beginning of each event.

Please help us to protect and respect pupils: performances may be stopped if unauthorised photography or filming takes place.



## Follow us on Social Media

We often publish photos and films of events such as class assemblies, performances and trips on Firefly, our password secure website. Additionally, we publish photos and films (depending on parental permissions) on our social media accounts. Follow us on: [Channing Instagram](#)

[Account](#), [Miss Dina Hamalis Instagram Account](#), [Channing Twitter Account](#) and [Channing Facebook Account](#) to see what the girls are getting up to at school.

## Birds & Owls



Please find below separate sign up forms for Early Birds, Mini Owls and Late Owls. Parents **must** sign up in advance for the whole half term.

### Early Birds (Before School): [Early Birds](#)

The girls can be dropped off at the office door between 7.30am and 7.55am. Girls will then make their way down to Fairseat Hall, staff will be available to help the younger girls. They will be given a healthy breakfast and there are a choice of activities. The girls will stay until their class entry time. There is no charge for this.

### Mini Owls (After School): [Mini Owls](#)

This runs from 3.05pm-3.50pm (3.30pm on Fridays). The girls will be taken by their Form Teacher after their pick up time. Parents will only be able to collect their daughters from Mini Owls at 3.50pm (3.30pm on a Friday) at the **main gate**, unless they are attending Late Owls. There is no charge for this.

### Late Owls (After School): [Late Owls](#)

This runs from 3.50pm - 5.50pm (4.50pm on Fridays). From 4.30 - 5.15pm (3.30 - 4.15pm Fridays), there will be a structured activity for the girls and they will be offered a snack of soup or a sandwich. They can be picked up either before 4.30pm (3.30pm on Fridays) or after 5.30pm (4.30pm on Fridays). You will need to collect your daughter from the Drama Room in the Stable Block. Normal charges apply.

## Birthday Cakes and Treats

You are very welcome to send in nut-free cakes or treats for your daughter to celebrate her birthday with her class or year group. Please ensure that they are separate cakes or treats rather than a large cake that needs to be sliced. Additionally please be mindful of the size of cakes; they should be no bigger than a child's hand. Due to health and safety, please do not send in cake pops. Furthermore, please do not send in treats for any other occasions without prior permission from your daughter's Form Teacher.



## Forest School for Reception - Year 4

This year, all girls in Reception - Year 4 will participate in weekly Forest School sessions in our dedicated area. Originating in Scandinavia, Forest School is a way of learning in a woodland environment where children can develop socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually through child-led activities, following individual and preferred learning styles. As the girls will be outdoors in all weathers - rain, hail or shine - we need to ensure they are appropriately dressed. Layers are great for keeping warm under waterproofs. All clothing should be clearly named and brought to school in a named backpack. Pupils in Reception - Year 2 should bring named wellies to be kept at school. Pupils in Year 3 and 4 will need to bring named wellies and clothing to school on their Forest School days and will return home with these on the same day. On the day your daughter/s have Forest School, please provide an extra named plastic bag inside for wet waterproofs:

- **Mondays:** 3F and 3C
- **Wednesdays:** 2E
- **Thursdays:** 1P and 2M
- **Fridays:** 1A, 4N and 4R
- **Reception** To start Forest School in January

*Forest School sessions will begin on the first day of term, Monday 6 September.*

To prepare for Forest School sessions, please see the list of items required below:

- Waterproof jacket and waterproof trousers (*separates are easier for getting dressed independently*)
- Named wellies (*NB: Reception - Y2 will keep these at school*)/ Fleece lined wellies or snow boots for the colder months

- Long sleeved top
- Sweater/ hoodie/ fleece
- Leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- Warm socks
- A thermal base layer, e.g. Merino wool
- Hat and scarf
- Gloves (*preferably waterproof, not mittens*)



Items can all be ordered from a variety of online shops, including Mountain Warehouse, H&M and [www.muddyfaces.co.uk](http://www.muddyfaces.co.uk)

## SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

### Girls Enjoying Success Awards

Well done to:

- **Iris M (4R)** for achieving a distinction in her grade 2 LAMDA exam (achieved by training virtually during lockdown).

*Please see 'Noticeboard' and 'Dates' below.*

**Miss Dina Hamalis**  
**Head of Junior School**

## DATES

### September

Thurs/Fri	2 - 3	Staff INSET Day
Monday	6	Start of Autumn Term (10am for Reception girls)
Mon - Wed	6 - 8	Rosh Hashanah
Thursday	9	Meet the Staff Evening (6pm)
Weds - Thurs	15-16	Yom Kippur
Monday	20	CLUBS BEGIN
Tuesday	21	Y6 Taster Day at the Senior School
Wednesday	22	Individual School Photographs
Friday	24	JS Open Morning (8:45 - 10:30am)
Thursday	30	Y6 Enrichment Workshop (Archaeology) (3.30-4.30pm in the SS)
Mon - Fri	27 - 1	Y4 Swimming (all week)

### October

Fri - Sun	1 - 31	Black History Month
Tuesday	5	JS Open Morning (8:45 - 10:30am)
Wednesday	6	Pastoral Parents' Evening (Form Teachers only)

Wednesday	13	Pastoral Parents' Evening (Form Teachers only)
Friday	15	Non-uniform Day/Charity Day
Mon - Fri	18 - 22	Half-term