



Wednesday 24 February 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

I hope that you are all well and managed to have some rest over the half term.

As you may have heard, all schools will be reopening to all pupils on the March 8th. Prior to any international boarder returning to school, they will be required to quarantine in line with what has been set by the UK Government.

As you may know, over the past months Bede's has tried to assist overseas parents by offering on-site camps in which pupils can spend their period of quarantine, and we plan to continue this offer moving through to the Summer Term.

8th March School Re-Opening

At the moment all travel corridors are currently suspended, and government regulations state anyone arriving into the UK MUST:

- Provide a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours prior their arrival,
- Book a 'pay and travel test package' (<https://quarantinehotelbookings.ctmportal.co.uk/>) which is to be taken on day 2 and day 8 with a cost of £210
- Complete a Passenger Locator Form
- Quarantine for 10 days

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer an onsite quarantine camp for the return to school on the 8th March, due to the difficulties associated with isolating pupils while school is in operation. Therefore, we would request that any boarders returning this term quarantine with their guardians before joining school on the 8th of March.

Summer 2021 Quarantine Camp

We are looking to offer another Quarantine Programme to take place at the Senior School, at the end of the Easter Holidays, should you wish to use this as an option, to make the return to Bede's easier and less stressful for our boarding community. In addition, to reduce the length of quarantine we will operate the "test to release" option, where after 5 full days of isolating, pupils will then take a PCR test and upon a negative result will be able to interact with their boarding household. Pupils will still be required to take a further test on day 8.

This programme will start on the 09th of April which gives us more than the 7 days suggested. This allows extra time to carry out all the PCR testing and results to be returned. It will also give a good opportunity for the pupils to be able to interact (Once a negative result is received and within their household bubble) prior to the start of school.

There may be some exemptions to this, as the UK currently has travel bans in place for some 'Red List' countries. In these circumstances we would not be able to offer the quarantine programme at the school and anyone travelling from one of these destinations will be required to quarantine in a government approved hotel. We are hoping that these restrictions will change for boarders returning to the UK and the Boarding Schools Association is working hard to get the government to change their

BEDE'S

position. We will update those affected once we know more. For the latest guidance please refer to the government's website below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/transport-measures-to-protect-the-uk-from-variant-strains-of-covid-19#travel-bans-to-the-uk---banned-countries>

During quarantine, we will try to accommodate each pupil in their normal boarding house and bedroom. However, this may not be possible depending on pupil numbers as each person will be given their own room, although bathrooms may need to be shared. To comply with regulations, pupils will be required to isolate in their bedrooms and our staff will provide regular online activities to help keep them engaged and motivated. We will of course have staff available and in house 24/7 should any pupil require them at any point.

Despite this course being longer, we have maintained the fee of £750 which will include the 'Test to Release' PCR test on day 5, but not the COVID-19 'Travel Test Package' as this must be booked by you.

A confirmation form has been attached, should you wish to book a place on the Easter Holiday Quarantine Programme. The closing date for enrolling on to this programme will be the **6th March 2021**.

Of course, things do change regularly in the current climate, so we will be monitoring the situation regularly and will do our best to adapt to any changes we are asked to make.

With best regards



Mr Danny Kenward
Assistant Director of Summer School
Danny.kenward@bedes.org