

September 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year of 2019; we are delighted to welcome the new Year 7 students and it's wonderful to see students looking so smart and genuinely pleased to be back at school.

As you will be aware, there have been several changes to the school over the last few weeks, all linked to improving security and safeguarding of our school community. Your son / daughter has been briefed on the various changes and the impact it will have on them. In brief, our gates and external doors are now operated by a Paxton system, which means that there is only free access at certain times of the day (before and after school, break and lunch times). As students are expected to be in their tutor room when the bell goes at 8.55am, the new Student Access Gate will close by 8.53am, as will the door to the new Inner Foyer Student Entrance. After this point, students will be required to activate a call point, which will go through to the House Leader office. The House Leader will then will provide access to the building. However, at this point the student will be marked as late as they will not have allowed sufficient time to be in their tutor room by 8.55am.

During the presentation to students on the various changes, they have also been made aware of the impact that the Paxton door access will have during a fire alarm activation and a lock-down drill. We will be conducting drills during this half term to ensure that all students are fully aware of the various arrangements during a fire and lockdown activation.

Students have also been made aware that the school will not tolerate any form of tampering with the door system. If this does happen, and this results in damage, students have been informed that all damage will be invoiced to the student and their family. We feel that this is highly unlikely as we do not have a history of damage of property at Sir Thomas Boughey (in fact, students are very respectful of their school environment) but we feel it important to make all students aware of the seriousness of tampering with the new door system.

As part of the safeguarding improvements, there have also been changes made to reception. Not only is there a new access route to reception, students will no longer go to reception if they require a tie, a phone call home, medication etc. This will all be centralised through the House Office. Again, students have been made aware of this. If pupils are required to leave school during the school day, they will wait to be collected in the main reception area.

STBA is proud to be part of the



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We are confident that everyone will very quickly become familiar with the various changes and the school community will benefit from improved security.

We are very much looking forward to another successful year at Sir Thomas Boughey and I would like to thank you in advance for your support throughout this year.

Kind regards

Jane Hingley

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Principal