



26th August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We're really looking forward to seeing you all again on **Friday 3rd September**. We thought it would be helpful just to re-send some of the information that we sent out on the last day of term with regard to timings and classes as well as to just remind you of some of the key information for Castle Mead.

Please refer to the attached letter for class names, timings, entrances and details with regard to PE.

During the holidays our hot water heater has broken. We are getting it replaced but it is going to take time for the parts to be sourced as this isn't something that the suppliers keep in stock. This means that we don't have hot water in school for the start of the year. Children will need to wash their hands in cold water but we have been assured by Public Health that this isn't a Covid or hygiene risk. We are aware that some children will be affected by this due to skin conditions. Please feel free to send in additional hand cream for your child if they will require this or chat to the office or class teacher. The kitchen is having a short term hot water boiler installed to ensure that meals can continue to be delivered within hygiene and safety regulations. We apologise for this but it has been a completely unexpected event and we have been working as hard as possible to get resolved as quickly as possible. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

School Uniform

- Castle Mead school sweatshirt or cardigan (badged)
- White or navy blue polo shirt
- Grey trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafore
- Green and white checked / striped dress
- Sensible dark shoes (no trainers, heels or sling-backs and no open-toed sandals)
- Waterproof coat
- Wellies for outdoor activities
- A hat when the weather requires
- A sensible size rucksack or other suitable bag for carrying books, water bottles etc
- Castle Mead logo book bags are also available and necessary for Key Stage 1
- A water bottle (with water only)

Please ensure that ALL clothing and equipment is clearly labelled with your child's name.

Castle Mead PE Kit

- House colour or white t-shirt
- Navy shorts and tracksuit bottoms
- Navy hoodie or sweatshirt
- Plimsolls or trainers
- For outdoor physical activities, a navy hoodie or jumper, navy jogging bottoms and trainers are necessary for use in colder or damp weather.

PE kit may be worn to and from school on timetabled PE days. **Only our school sports kit or plain colours are acceptable, no branded / team shirts, hoodies, joggers or shorts.**

Uniform is a key part of a smart and respectful school. Our children wear the uniform with pride and we will always support parents if there are any difficulties with uniform. Please ensure your child does not wear trainers to school, except for PE.

Our uniform is easy to purchase and maintain, with items available unbranded from most large supermarkets and children's clothes shops. All our items, including the branded sweatshirts and polo shirts, are available from: *Scholars, 55/56 Fore Street, Trowbridge, BA14 8ET, 01225 753586*
If viewing digitally, click here to visit Scholars: [Castle Mead Page](#)





Quick reference frequently asked questions:

Q: Will bubbles still operate in school?

A: No. Children will be able to mix more freely between classes and year groups.

Q: Can my child still be sent home to isolate?

A: If your child comes into school with Covid symptoms or develops them during the day, they will be sent home to isolate until a PCR test and the results have been obtained. If the test returns as positive, your child will be required to self-isolate. The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but instead should book a PCR test.

Q: Can my child wear PE kit to school on PE days?

A: Yes. Please ensure that your child has the correct uniform or PE kit on the correct days. Please refer to attached letter for details of PE days.

Q: How do I book my child in for wrap around care?

A: The SIMs pay system will continue to be used for booked before and after school care.

Q: Will start and finish times still be staggered?

A: No. All children (apart from the Resource Base) will arrive and leave school at the same time. Please refer to attached letter for details of start times and gates.

Q: Will there still be allocated areas such as the playground and toilets?

A: There will not be areas of the school restricted by bubbles.

Q: Will cloakroom areas be back in use?

A: Yes, children will be able to hang their bags and coats on their peg.

Q: Will there be trips and visits?

A: Yes. We are planning trips out of school, including curriculum visits and sporting events. More details to follow.

Q: Will cross-curricular clubs be starting again?

A: Yes, these will run from October – more information will follow.

Q: Do we have to use Seesaw?

A: The home-learning (weekly homework) expectation is for learning to be uploaded to Seesaw. Please speak to your child's class teacher as early as possible in the term if this is an issue for you or your child so that we can support.

Q: What do I do if I have any more questions or comments?

A: Talk to us. Either on the gate or by getting in touch; emailing the school office is the best route – office@castlemead.wilts.sch.uk