



## **Steyping Grammar School**

### **COVID-19 Secure Protocol for Reopening of Boarding**

This protocol will apply to all Steyping Grammar School. These instructions are for the safety of staff and all members of the school community. They are mandatory to reduce the transmission of the virus between all those on site.

#### **Important government guidance**

##### **From 29th May 2020:**

*Boarding houses are considered as households within DfE guidance. Therefore boarding houses can be used for quarantine purposes, so long as they comply with the **Home Office guidance on quarantine.***

##### **July 2020**

The new government guidance from 2nd July means that students will remain in Year Group bubbles at school. Boarding students are permitted to remain in their boarding bubble as a residential community as well as in their Year Group bubble at school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

##### **August 2020**

If you're a resident or visitor travelling to the UK from any country, you must [provide your journey and contact details](#). If you do not do this before you arrive it might take you longer to enter the UK.

##### **Official School letters for travel overseas**

Mrs Law will send all families whose children are travelling overseas a personalised letter by Friday 21st August 2020 to be carried by the student during their journey. This may be asked for by the UK Border Force upon arrival at the airport.

In addition to all government guidance, we will also adopt the BSA Covid-ready charter: <https://www.boarding.org.uk/userfiles/bsa/Covid%20documents/Covid%20Safe%20Charter.pdf>

## When students arrive

If you are driving to us, please park on the Steyning Library Car park (free) post code: BN44 3YB - **see attached map of How to Find Us**

- Students will be welcomed by Boarding staff in the dining hall and will have their temperature and oxygen levels taken and recorded.
- Students will need to hand in their passports and any other documents such as medical documents if not already handed in.
- They will then be taken to their rooms to settle in.
- Parents may enter the dining hall but not into boarding rooms - refreshments and toilets will be available.

## Daily schedule during quarantine

Date	1400 - 1600	1900 - 2000
Mon 24th Aug	Welcome	BBQ
Tue 25th Aug	Routines / Fire Alarms / Behaviour etc	Home Learning / In Rooms
Wed 26th Aug	Swimming - may be PM	Home Learning / In Rooms
Thu 27th Aug	Jewellery making	Home Learning / In Rooms
Fri 28th Aug	Film Afternoon	Dodgeball
Sat 29th Aug	TBC	Bingo
Sun 30th Aug	Pool tournament	House clear up/ In Rooms
Mon 31st Aug	Smoothie Making	Home Learning / In Rooms
Tue 1st Sep	Board games	Home Learning / In Rooms
Wed 2nd Sep	Swimming - may be PM	Home Learning / In Rooms
Thu 3rd Sep	Table tennis tournament	Home Learning / In Rooms
Fri 4th Sep	Cooking club	Volleyball
Sat 5th Sep	TBC	Human table football
Sun 6th Sep	Hungry Hippos	House clear up / In rooms

## Quarantine

- Boarding will reopen for overseas students from 10am on Monday 24th August.
- UK based students will arrive from 31st August 2020.

- Transport from the airport will be arranged for students - they must come directly to boarding. Parents will be charged for this before the October half term.
- Boarding will be considered as a family bubble in line with government guidance, as such, we will not be distancing.
- Staff and Students will not leave the boarding site for the duration of quarantine.
- Parents will not be permitted to enter the boarding houses and will need to remain on the Bennett basketball court.
- Only Catering Staff and Domestic Staff will be permitted to enter the boarding sites.
- All rooms will be deep cleaned before students return.
- Families will need to complete a screening questionnaire to form an individual student risk assessment.
- Students will download the NHS contact tracing app.
- Students will be allowed to wear face masks if they wish - students will need to provide their own face mask if they want to wear this.
- **On Monday 7th September, all boarding students and boarding staff will be tested for Covid-19. Parents must pay the fee of £55 as a condition of return- this charge will be added to Spring fees invoice. These tests are being carried out by <https://www.biograd.co.uk/>**

### **Information on the antibody tests:**

- The antibody tests we use are the only CE-IVD approved tests for the UK. They work from a finger prick and are suitable for use on children from 18 months old.
- You get results by e-mail in 20-30 minutes and you will be told whether you have a positive/negative result for anti-COVID IgG and IgM. The test tells you more than just whether you have been exposed to COVID, it can differentiate whether you have been exposed in the last week or the last 6-8 weeks. This is essential for identifying asymptomatic carriers, especially when PCR testing is only currently available for symptomatic cases. It is far less invasive than the nasopharyngeal swab and perfectly suited for children.
- As with the PCR tests, BioGrad clinical staff come to the school and carry out all of the tests on-site. We have been holding antibody screening clinics throughout the UK and the levels of IgG are much higher than the government have reported. We have also identified 0.88% of our patients with IgM and been able to send them for further screening, thus stopping the spread of COVID within the communities we have tested in.
- **Do I need to isolate if I have a positive IgM result?**

As a precaution you should isolate. IgM is usually the first antibody produced by the immune system when a virus attacks. A positive IgM test indicates that you may have been infected and that your immune system has started responding to the virus. When IgM is detected you may still be infected, or you may have recently recovered from a COVID-19 infection. It would be recommended you contact the NHS by calling 119 to book a free PCR test.

- **Do I need to isolate if I have a positive IgG result?**

No, IgG antibodies that develop in most patients within seven to 10 days after symptoms of COVID-19 begin. IgG antibodies remain in the blood after an infection

has passed. These antibodies indicate that you may have had COVID-19 in the recent past and have developed antibodies that may

- **How sensitive is the test?**

In order to test the detection sensitivity and specificity of this test, blood samples were collected from clinically diagnosed COVID19 patients. A total of 272 cases were tested: 127 (positive) clinically confirmed patients and 145 non infected patients (negative). The 127 positive patients were tested 7 days after being clinically diagnosed by PCR and CT. Among the 127 clinically confirmed samples, 125 were detected by the test reagents, with a positive detection rate (sensitivity) of 98.43%.

### **Infection prevention and control measures**

- **Welcome pack:** all students will be given a large pack of disinfectant wipes and a 500ml bottle of hand sanitizer for their rooms.
- All staff have completed additional training on infection prevention/control.
- All resident boarding staff are first aid trained.
- Shared bathrooms and toilets will be cleaned everyday.
- The laundry will be open every day- students will place all laundry in dissolvable laundry bags to reduce
- A strict hygiene regime will be observed with alcohol gel and handwashing.
- We will take students' temperatures twice a day and monitor these.
- Only resident staff will be on the supervision rota during quarantine.
- The Director of Boarding will cover any member of staff if they show symptoms.
- If the Director of Boarding shows symptoms, they will self isolate and be covered by Houseparents.
- There will be an enrichment programme during the day to keep students gainfully employed.
- Students must vacate rooms and bathrooms when Domestic Staff are present.
- Catering Staff will enter the building via their separate access door and not enter the main building.

### **Rooming**

- All rooms will be risk assessed - no issues for single rooms with ensuites.
- All students will have an individual risk assessment based on their medical history.
- Siblings will be roomed together if quarantine is in place.
- Shared rooms of a sufficient size, partition walls and ventilation will be used at 100% capacity.

### **Cleaning**

- Shared bathrooms and toilets will be cleaned every day.
- Students will be asked to clean the toilet seat with a wipe before using the toilet.
- Door handles will be cleaned everyday.

### **Catering**

- Full catering will be provided
- Meal times may be staggered following C-19 testing results.

### **Teaching and learning**

- Online learning will continue until the end of Summer Term on 17th July.
- We are still unsure if school will be open for all year groups from September.

- Boarders will continue to do online learning if their return to school is late.
- We await further government guidance on this matter.

### **What happens if a student develops Covid-19 symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19 in Boarding?**

- The student isolates in their room or in The Haven (Medical Centre) if safe to move there.
- If a student is in a shared room, they will self isolate in The Haven. The room will be deep cleaned and other students will be relocated to spare rooms.
- Contact 111/ Parents/ Guardians.
- Ascertain if the student has been in contact with an infected person and undertakes contact tracing of their movements.
- **If the student tests positive, we will be guided by medical authorities as to next steps, which may involve hospitalisation.**
- Parents/guardians to be kept fully informed.
- If more students have to self isolate, food orders via email.
- Contact tracing of students and possible retesting of other staff/students who they have been in contact.
- Additional capacity for beds in Gappie flat, students relocated to other free beds. Haven locked off and isolated from Bennett House.
- No Visitors.
- Meals brought in for students.
- Reverse barrier nursing by Matron/Director of Boarding.
- PPE measures.
- Professional company brought in to deep clean student rooms.
- Domestic Staff hours remain the same and cleaning duties. If a member of the team cannot attend due to childcare, wet work and bins will be prioritised by remaining staff.
- Any staff with underlying medical issues self isolate.
- Internal lockdown triggered; student movement restricted to houses, corridors or rooms if needed. Catering in house, scheduled exercise breaks and designated zones.

### **What happens if a member of boarding staff develops Covid-19 symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19?**

- The member of staff self-isolates in their accommodation..
- Their household (partner/children) must also isolate.
- They will be removed from the supervision rota.
- Additional staffing options available.
- Follow advice and guidance from 111 regarding next steps.
- Contact tracing of staff members and possible retesting of other staff/students who they have been in contact with.
- Same infection control measures as taken above.

### **What if a student or member of staff displays Covid-19 symptoms at school?**

There is a separate protocol for this- please see the school website:

<http://www.sgs.uk.net/search/covid--19-information/110580.html>

If this student is a boarder or boarding member of staff, they will come back to boarding and isolate there whilst we await Public Health England advice for next steps.

### **When lessons begin**

**What happens if any student (day or boarding) develops Covid-19 symptoms in school and then tests positive?**

**What happens if a Teacher/member of staff develops Covid-19 symptoms in school and then tests positive?**

The school's full risk assessments have been shared with parents and can be found online here: <http://www.sgs.uk.net/risk-assessments-for-partial-reopening/110578.html>

### **What happens if school has to close due to a second spike of Covid-19?**

- Boarding would lockdown and self-isolate and follow the quarantine protocol as detailed above.
- Boarding remains open until all students have left for a place of safety with parents or guardians.
- If students could not leave safely, they would remain in Boarding.

### **What if quarantine is no longer compulsory when students arrive back at boarding?**

- We are informing families of our plans to reopen in August so they can make travel arrangements as soon as possible.
- We will open on Monday 24th August regardless of whether quarantine is still in effect.
- In the event quarantine is no longer in effect, then students will have a two week summer induction programme provided.

### **Frequently asked questions**

#### **Can weekly boarders come home for the weekend?**

Weekly boarders will be expected to remain in boarding during quarantine- no charge. If there is no quarantine, they will be able to come and go during these two weeks. We would always invite all students to remain in boarding for the first two weekends to get to know each other and for the induction activities.

**No students may leave Boarding before Friday 11th September.**

#### **Will social distancing be a requirement & how will it be implemented?**

Boarding houses have been classed as a household so we will not need to social distance.

#### **What about social distancing measures in school?**

The new government guidance from 2nd July means that students will remain in Year

Group bubbles at school. Boarding students are permitted to remain in their boarding bubble as a residential community as well as their Year Group bubble at school.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-ou-tbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

**Have terms dates been confirmed as we need to reserve and book flights?**

These are being shared with families with this communication.

**If the quarantine period ends, what will boarders do during the day when they return?**

We understand that quarantine rules for certain countries will begin to ease. If so, August will become a 2 week summer camp for students; the days will be structured around activities and study. We realise that parents and students are concerned about the impact of Covid-19 and school closures upon studies and this will form part of our 'recovery curriculum'. We will share the full programme later this month.

**Can we send uniform, sports kit and belongings to boarding before we arrive?**

Absolutely, please feel free to send all items to:

Student's Name  
Boarding House  
Lower School  
Church Street  
Steyning  
West Sussex  
BN44 3LB

**Can you tell us more about the 'recovery curriculum'?**

We are currently finalising plans to support all students, and especially Year 11 and 13 students, to catch up on missed lessons. This may include moving trial (mock) exams to a later date and even moving the final public examinations later next year- this is a government decision and we are awaiting confirmation. We intend to run additional catch up sessions for students throughout the school year and in boarding.

**Is there a charge for my child to remain in boarding during October half term?**

Yes, this will cost £300 per student- this will include full supervision, full catering, activities and a study programme with teachers.

**What if we cannot fly to the UK because of lockdown in our home country?**

We understand that some students will need to start later in term because of air travel restrictions. We will support students and lessons will be accessed online. EU passport holders must have been in the UK (at least once) by 31st December 2020 to apply for the EU settlement scheme- further details have been shared with families. New students without a British passport can only apply for this scheme when in the country- we will help students to apply for this when they arrive during the boarding induction.

**Is the Steyning Football Academy affected by Covid-19?**

We envisage Sixth Form students will be able to follow the Football Academy programme as offered at the time of offering you a place.

**Will the school help with uniform fitting?**

Yes, during quarantine, Houseparents will ask students to try on their school uniform and arrange for replacements if it does not fit correctly.

**Can parents help students to unpack?**

Regrettably, parents/guardians/family members will not be able to enter boarding houses

until the Covid-19 pandemic has ended in the UK. They will have access to toilet facilities and refreshments if they bring their child to school.