

# Bishop Wordsworth's School

Exeter Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2EDTelephone:01722 333851Fax:01722 325899E-mail:admin@bws.wilts.sch.ukWebsite:www.bws-school.org.ukHead Master:Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

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**Dear Parents/Guardians** 

Welcome to the new school year and in particular the new parents with boys coming into the school. As we enter a busy term with hugely competitive rugby, football, cross country, tennis and basketball fixtures on the horizon there are some important messages I would wish to share regarding safety, access and support.

### **Safety**

#### Concussion

For all sports we will be following the RFU's 23 day return to play protocol should a student suffer a concussion inside or out of school. Following a concussion (or suspected concussion) they should have 2 weeks of rest and be symptom free before returning to physical activity. Following this there is a gradual return to play phase with various markers as check points - the earliest return to play being 23 days.

We require parental consent following this two week period to signal your child has been symptom free and as recommended has seen a doctor to clear them. Once confirmed they are able to gradually return, but they will not fully compete until another 9 days later.

Please follow the link below for further information regarding concussion and your child's care following a head injury. On the main link there is all the information available, I have also added the link to the main points for parents and players.

http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/players/player-health/concussion-headcase/players-and-parents/

http://www.englandrugby.com/mm/Document/MyRugby/Headcase/01/30/48/91/playerandparentge neralinfo\_Neutral.pdf

#### Mouth Guards/Shin Pads

Protective equipment is essential for your child's safety. For any contact sport they should wear a mouth guard, this includes rugby, basketball and lacrosse. OPRO are in school on Tuesday 13 September and information has already gone out regarding their services. I would also recommend a cheaper mouth guard as back up.

Shin pads are required for football, and for Years 7-10 this will take place after Christmas.



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## <u>Access</u>

Due to the building works on the school site and limited space at the school field there will be no parking for parents or spectators for any sporting fixtures either mid-week or at the weekend. The only people parking at the field should be staff, medical personnel, officials and volunteers.

The park and ride is a short walk from the school field and is the nearest accessible place to park.

### <u>Support</u>

Your ongoing vocal and financial support is much appreciated. We suffer very few if any incidents with our parents on the touchline and in fact our support is regularly commented on for its positive manner and conduct.

My letter regarding sports subs has already been issued and speaks for itself, but again I would like to thank all those that do contribute be it money and/or time to help support our boys, they all do us proud whatever activity they are doing. Without your backing we would really struggle to provide the opportunities we are able to offer.

Please see the link below for all our sporting fixtures and results:

http://www.bws-school.org.uk/Sports/Sports\_Fixtures/

I look forward to seeing you on the touchlines, side lines, muddy fields and courts as we cheer our boys on in their various endeavours.

Best wishes

Richard Demain-Griffiths Director of Sport