

huish
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Dear Parents and Carers

As our second full week back draws to a close I thought you might appreciate an update.

The students continue to work with us and lessons are calm and purposeful. Attendance has been particularly good and we thank you for making sure that students are in school with us and are on time. Nationally, attendance was 88% last week and we were over 95% which is fantastic. The more students are in school the greater their chance of making as much progress as possible. If a student feels unwell during the day then they should tell their class teacher who will see if they need to go to the medical room. We will then contact you if we feel that your son/daughter needs to come home.

We recognise that some parents are still having difficulties sourcing items of uniform. It is important that you share details of this with Tutors and Heads of Year so that we can support you. We have made allowances in these first two weeks but from Monday we will be insisting that students do not wear hoodies around the school site during the day. Instead, school blazers will be expected to be worn.

We are delighted to welcome back the local School Pastors who will join us in seeing students safely off site at the end of the day, as well as being out and about in the community as students walk home. From Tuesday, the School Health Clinic will also start again. This is a confidential health clinic which has run in school for several years. It provides guidance on any health related issues, providing information, advice and support for emotional health, relationships, sexual health, drugs, smoking and alcohol. Whilst this service is available for students outside of school, we facilitate this in school to support their wellbeing. The attached poster provides a broader service, via text message.

You will have heard that two local schools have had confirmed cases of Covid-19. I want to reassure you that we continue to review our systems in school to keep everyone safe. If your son/daughter has any of the symptoms of the virus (a temperature, a new persistent cough, loss of taste or smell) then please do not send them to school and inform us immediately. By doing this, we can make sure that the wider community is protected and we can keep the school open.

Following discussions with teaching staff and students we have decided that staff and students will be expected to wear face masks while moving between lessons in the corridors from Monday. Masks will not be expected to be worn when outside the

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building or during lessons in accordance with government guidance. If your son/ daughter cannot wear a mask for medical reasons then we would ask that you let us know. It seems to be a simple thing that might keep people safer as we get further into term. The local authority announced today that students on school transport would be expected to wear face masks while on the bus. The following link explains how masks should be worn: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

One aspect of our systems that we will slightly alter is the end of the day dismissal. Our exit gate by the crossing is narrow and we are trying to make sure that the year groups remain apart as they leave site. We will stagger dismissals for each year group, starting just after 3pm so that all students will be dismissed by 3.10pm, starting from Monday.

Finally, a reminder that in the event that we have to close to either a year group or the whole school, our intention is that lessons will follow the normal timetable and will be conducted on Microsoft TEAMS. We sent out a document last week explaining how students can access this and it is attached again for your reference. We will be explaining to students in school how to access TEAMS so that if and when the time comes, we are prepared.

I am very grateful for the support you have shown to us all as we continue to do the best we can for your children in these difficult times.

Wishing you a restful and happy weekend.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Eddy', written over a vertical line that extends downwards.

Mr J Eddy
Head Teacher

Enclosures:
Chat Health Poster
Accessing Microsoft Teams