



RC/hst

16 April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you have found some time to relax over the Easter break and have managed to take advantage of some of the relaxing of restrictions since 12 April, especially with catching-up with family and friends. As we approach the return to school for the Summer Term I thought that it might be helpful to reinforce some key messages.

Students in Year 11 will continue with their GCSE studies, building their portfolios of evidence ready for marking, moderation and grade submission in early June.

As I explained in my previous letter, we are planning a full round of Parent's Evening and Reports for the Summer Term, this is most likely to be in an 'on-line' format.

### **Appropriate Uniform & PE Kit**

In the weeks leading up to Easter we had been at pains to focus on welcoming students back rather than confronting some issues over uniform. This was in the knowledge that some have struggled over Lockdown, shops had been closed and it may have presented genuine challenges for families. The overwhelming majority of students are in full uniform, so thank you to parents for their continued support. Given the ongoing restrictions regarding changing rooms, students will continue to wear PE kits to school on days when they have PE lessons. Please note that there is a very smart and practical school PE kit – this is expected to be worn on PE days. Hoodies and sweatshirts are not school uniform.

### **Canteen arrangements**

From next Monday a full selection of hot and cold food will be served from the school canteen at both break-times (morning and afternoon). This will hopefully reduce queuing times and allow for greater social distancing.

### **Lateral Flow Testing at home**

Thank you for your support and co-operation in testing at home. Students did take home additional test kits before the Easter break. Test kits are now more widely available for the whole family from local test centres and the gov.uk website. Students have been asked to continue to test regularly throughout the Easter break, but especially before returning to school next Monday.

### **Masks in school**

The Prime Minister confirmed during his Easter address to the Country that students should continue to wear masks in the same way that they did on their return to school in March. Please ensure that your child has a mask with them when they return on Monday.

During his address the Prime Minister went to great lengths to explain that this pandemic is not over yet and that most protective measures need to remain, especially in schools. Therefore, hand sanitising, mask wearing, providing well-ventilated spaces and social distancing expectations will remain in place until our next review at May half term.

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Thank you for your sustained support.

Finally, please see below for a few key dates for next term:

April 2021	Friday 2 April – Friday 16 April inclusive – Easter Holiday Monday 26 April – ‘Drop Everything and Read’ (Period 1) Wednesday 28 April – PTA Meeting via TEAMS (6.30 PM – 7.30 PM)
May 2021	Wednesday 5 May – Year 11 Parents’ Evening Tuesday 18 May - ‘Drop Everything and Read’ (Period 2) Wednesday 26 May – Year 10 Parents’ Evening
June 2021	Wednesday 16 June – ‘Drop Everything and Read’ (Period 3) Wednesday 23 June – Year 6 into Year 7 Informal Induction Evening
July 2021	W/b 5 July – Years 7 and 8 End of Year Data/Moderation Tuesday 6 July – Year 10 Assessments Wednesday 7 July – Year 6 into Year 7 Induction Evening W/b 12 July – Years 9 and 10 End of Year Data/Moderation Monday 12 July – ‘Talk like an expert’ day Thursday 15 July – ‘Drop Everything and Read’ (Period 4)

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Carlyle  
Headteacher