



6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Principal's Update – Autumn Term 7**

The day after my last update, new national restrictions were announced and are now in place. I am very pleased that schools have been able to remain open and I hope that following a very successful first half term, we shall be able to continue to operate safely and effectively.

### *Face Masks*

I have been impressed by students this week as they have adapted to wearing face masks in corridors and other indoor communal areas quickly and easily. Very few have needed reminding and everyone appears to be keen to do the right thing. We have needed to provide face masks to a small number of students who have arrived without one each day; please ensure that your child remembers to bring at least one (I would suggest a spare in case of loss or damage) every day. Reusable masks should be washed daily and single-use masks should be hygienically disposed of.

### *Extra-Curricular Activities*

In line with the government guidance received earlier this week, we are reluctantly suspending extra-curricular activities after school for the duration of the national restrictions. We hope to reinstate them next month, if permitted. At the end of the school day, students are required to leave the site immediately. They should make their way home directly and avoid social gatherings – I would be grateful if parents would reinforce this important message.

### *Positive Case*

A positive case in the KS3 Phoenix Bubble has required a number of students who have been identified as close contacts to begin a period of self-isolation today. All other students should continue to attend school as normal, unless they themselves or a household member has symptoms.

### *College VI Students Off Site*

In my last update, I advised that College VI students would now be allowed to leave the site during the day when not scheduled to lessons and were encouraged to do so in the afternoons if they have no further lessons that day. This remains the case, but students must now be mindful of the national restrictions which means that unless they are going home or taking exercise (alone or with one other person), they should remain on site, either in the Library or the Common Room.

### *Year 11 Parents Evening*

We look forward to speaking with Year 11 students and their parents next Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020, 5-8pm. Please ensure that you know how to access your appointments beforehand and that you have checked the technology. I hope that everything will work well but please have mobile phones to hand as teachers will call if there are difficulties with the virtual meeting.

### *Getting to Know College VI*

Also of particular interest to Year 11 students and their parents, we were pleased to publish our new [College VI promotional video](#) this week which gives viewers a glimpse of what makes College VI the place to be for Sixth Form success. Together with the [College VI Handbook](#) already published, further subject information to follow and an opportunity to see the College VI facilities, I hope that students will enjoy getting to know College VI better as they make their applications.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Dey  
Principal