

## 21 September 2020

## Important information for parents

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope this letter finds you well. It was wonderful to warmly welcome back Year 13 and Year 12 students last week for their respective inductions. Students have returned to us with drive and a sense of purpose, which has been pleasing to see.

Whilst we are trying to give students some sense of normality, it is important to acknowledge that our practices, by necessity, cannot return to normal.

It is <u>vitally important</u> that your child does not come into College if they have Covid-19 symptoms or have tested positive in at least the last 10 days. It is also important that you follow Government guidance regarding self-isolation if someone in your child's household or their support 'bubble' develops symptoms

(https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stayat-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection).

In College we have developed a thorough system to manage and track individual students in their year group 'bubble'. If we do have a confirmed case of Covid-19 in your child's class, you will <u>either</u>:

i. receive a letter to confirm that your child has been within 2 meters of that individual for longer than 15 minutes and therefore should self-isolate.

Or

ii. receive a letter informing you of the confirmed case in your child's class and explaining that as your child has not been in direct contact with the confirmed case no further action is needed, unless your child develops symptoms.

We are recommending that while students are in College that they wear face coverings during change over times, when year groups are likely to mix, and when they are in the library. Those students who use a College bus must also wear a face covering while they are on the bus, with the exception, of course, of those with any medical issues.

We ask that you join us in reminding your child about good general hygiene habits:

- Washing their hands frequently with soap and water;
- Avoiding touching their eyes, nose and mouth;
- Not coughing or sneezing into their hands, cover their mouth and nose with their elbow/tissue and then dispose of used tissues immediately;
- Maintaining social distancing guidelines.

Whilst there are plenty of handwashing facilities and hand sanitiser dispensers in College I would urge you to make sure that your child has their own personal supply of hand sanitiser to be used routinely throughout the day.

In light of the updated Government directive, which makes the act of meeting people in a group larger than six illegal, I ask that you help your child make good decisions during their time outside of College.

Keeping students in full time education is of paramount importance. Making decisions as a family about positively and deliberately not attending parties, social gatherings or events will be a crucial factor in keeping College open for everyone. I would very much appreciate your support in ensuring your child does the right thing at this most challenging of times.

Thank you as always for your support.

Yours sincerely

Stephonie Dear

Stephanie Dean Director of Achievement & Support