

6 January 2021

Dear Parents and Students

The College understands that the new national lockdown has taken us all by surprise. I recognise that you will have questions and concerns. It is important to confirm that we heard the announcement at the same time as you and we did not have prior knowledge of the actions which have been taken.

As we receive more guidance, information and answers to questions we are raising with the Department of Education and Ofqual, we will keep you informed in the best way we can.

For now it is important that students remain focused, attend Teams lessons and do the best they can to complete work set by teachers. We hope that this will provide much needed structure, enjoyment and a sense of purpose.

The College is able to offer places for vulnerable students and children of key workers. For those students who find learning remotely challenging and/or who feel that their mental health and wellbeing is negatively affected, please do contact Louise Long, Head of Achievement and Support. Mrs Long will coordinate the support we are able to offer students. Support may include a student attending College for part of the week and working in the library, and being supervised and supported by Progress Mentors.

Students who access this support and are allocated a place as a vulnerable student and/or child of a key worker will be encouraged to consent to taking a lateral flow test in order to give greater peace of mind to all. Students who do not consent to being tested may still access support and will not be disadvantaged.

The College will be in regular contact with you and I urge parents to routinely check the College website, parent portal and the parent bulletin. Students should ensure that their College mailbox has space and we encourage them to check emails each day.

If you have any questions please do contact the Progress Mentors.

With warmest wishes.

Stephonie Dear

Stephanie Dean Assistant Principal