

SG/kb

22nd June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are all well.

It is with regret I have to inform you that we have had five positive COVID cases last week, leading to 80 students self-isolating. We are working closely with Public Health Milton Keynes and will continue to review the situation, especially the wearing of masks in school. The non-wearing of masks in school has had a positive effect on both staff and students and it has been lovely to see the students' smiling faces once again. However, if Government advice dictates that the wearing of masks between lessons and/or in classroom is necessary to stop the spread of the virus, I am afraid we will have to reintroduce this precautionary measure.

Students must also ensure they wear masks in local shops; I have had reports from some concerned shopkeepers that a few of our students are not doing this. Masks must also be worn on public and school transport as well.

The Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, has written to secondary parents/carers to talk about the importance of regular testing when it comes to keeping COVID out of the classroom. With the increase in cases, it is imperative that you and your children carry on testing at home, twice a week.

Despite the recent setback, students and staff continue to be resolute in the face of adversity and we will carry on, where we can, providing the transitional activities that have been planned for each year group. This includes Year 7's returning to their original tutor group in preparation for September; Year 8 and Year 9 having sample lessons in their option subjects for September and Year 10 session 6 will continue and they will get a chance to sample a practical lesson in their vocational subjects.

Our planned sports day at each campus can go ahead, in line with existing restrictions, but we will have to maintain year group bubbles and this, weather dependent, will be a fun day for all.

Unfortunately, we had to amend our transition week for Year 6's due to the existing restrictions, but each feeder school will still attend for at least one day to allow them the chance to experience secondary school before September.

After a robust and rigorous system to ensure fairness is in place, including quality assurance checks in school, and by the exam boards, all teacher assessed grades for Year 13 and Year 11 students have been submitted and we have taken multiple steps to make sure these grades reflect students' performance. Once again, I thank parents/carers and students for your support regarding this difficult and stressful process.

Despite the pressures nationally and locally, the majority of students continue to work hard and be happy at school. I want to thank you all for your efforts so far as I know that this has been, and continues to be, an enormously challenging time for all. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Our aim over the next four weeks is to prepare students, and the school, for a pre-COVID opening in September; more details will follow towards the end of term.

In the meantime, stay safe and keep smiling!

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Glover', written in a cursive style.

Mr Stuart Glover
Acting Headteacher