

SG/kb

26th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

What a term! It has been a very different and trying time for all, but in so many ways incredibly rewarding, especially with having staff and students back into school over the last three weeks. The students have enjoyed returning and we have thoroughly enjoyed having them back. As the weeks have gone on they have grown in confidence and it has been a very successful transition from remote learning back to face to face learning.

After Easter we will start to return to normality and this will begin with a real focus on standards and expectations. Students must return to wearing full school uniform, including PE kit, and follow the usual uniform policy. The uniform policy has been sent out by the pastoral team this week and I thank you for your continued support with this. Uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of the school and setting an appropriate tone. Staff will continue to deliver high quality lessons and there will be further details sent out regarding the timetable for session 6 and the recovery curriculum at the start of term. We await further guidance from the Department for Education on how we can ease the current restrictions, especially the wearing of masks in class, and broaden and improve the experiences of the students during the summer term.

The Year 11 and Year 13 students continue to work hard as they enter the last stage of their journey towards being awarded grades in the summer. I am confident in the work the school has done in ensuring that staff and students are fully prepared to award grades for each student in a robust and fair way. This will entail the students being awarded the grades they deserve. Again, thank you for your support with this process, we know it has not been easy for everyone.

Unfortunately, I still have to mention COVID-19 and we have had three positive cases this week meaning a number of students have had to self-isolate. As we enter the next stage of the roadmap, and have the wonderful opportunity to meet up with family and friends from next week, we must make sure that we all still follow all of the precautions to allow all staff and students to return after Easter. With this in mind could you please ensure your sons/daughters continue to use the Lateral flow tests (LFT) over the break, and it is of paramount importance they do a final test on April 11th before they return to school. If any students have any symptoms please make sure they take a PCR test.

On Monday, 12th April all students will be issued with another two packs of home testing kits and I ask if your sons/daughters could continue to self-test every four days from Sunday, 11th April for another three weeks. I would also like to remind you that as a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of a pupil or staff member, you can order additional home testing kits for your family. You will have the opportunity to collect the tests in person or arrange for home delivery. Further guidance can be found here: [Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff)

However, despite having to continue to talk about COVID-19, I firmly believe there is light at the end of the tunnel. Please have a great holiday and it will be marvellous to catch up with loved ones and friends again. Thank you for all your continued support and please do not forget to have a look at Ousenews and see examples of all the outstanding work that has been produced this term.

Finally, a big thank you to the testing staff who did such a fantastic job over the last two weeks.

Happy Easter!

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

Mr Stuart Glover
Acting Headteacher