

5 October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

Please find below a few updates and reminders.

### **Face masks**

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your support so far with our requirement for the wearing of face-masks in communal areas inside the college site. The majority of students have shown a responsible attitude towards playing their part in helping stop the spread of coronavirus. Unfortunately, too many students were not bringing a face mask initially and we had to give out 500 masks in the first week. Obviously, this is not sustainable. We addressed this with individual students last week and the number of students arriving at college without a mask decreased significantly. Students have now had two weeks to get organised in this respect and therefore we are now going to address the matter via our behaviour policy if students do not come equipped with a face mask, just as we would for any other missing uniform or equipment.

### **Homework club**

Our students are now settled into the routines of the new term and so we are now in a position to review how we can restart some of our extra-curricular provision. The first after-college clubs to resume will be homework clubs. These will run on Thursdays and there will be a separate club for each year group. The club will be open to all students but those who are receiving behaviour points for not completing homework will be required to attend in order to address the problem.

### **PE Kit**

A few parents have enquired as to why we are not asking students to attend college wearing their PE kit on days that they have PE. This is because schools are being encouraged to use outdoor spaces for PE as much as possible and students may well get wet and muddy during PE lessons. However, our students will be able to change into a clean, dry uniform for the rest of their lessons rather than having to spend the day in discomfort, which would be a distraction from their learning. Whilst we would seek to bring children indoors in very bad weather, the fact that our playing fields are off-site means that they are more likely to be caught out in the rain, too. Our changing rooms are cleaned between every use and students should be no closer in there than they are in any lesson.

### **Use of College Reception**

We are experiencing a high number of requests from parents to pass on messages to their children. Please be aware that this is not possible unless in an emergency.

### **Access to IT**

According to the latest update from the Local Authority, no school in the local area has had to make any full or partial closures, which is very good news. However, Covid-19 has not gone away and we have to be ready to respond to all scenarios. This includes being equipped to provide remote teaching to students who may require it, be that individuals or larger groups. The college sent out a survey last week, asking for details of your child's access to IT. This information is absolutely essential to us in planning the best possible remote learning provision and yet we have had relatively few returns. Please, please, please complete that form and return it to the college as soon as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

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

**Alex Newton**  
**Principal**