



25th October 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Thank you for your ongoing support over autumn term 1, which has seen us return to as much normality as possible, with the ongoing pandemic still affecting us in so many ways.

We have had a letter from public health in Oxfordshire about the increases in these diseases recently.

I will be watching the trends over half term in terms of numbers of cases in our local community. If numbers seem to be rising I will be in contact with public health in terms of whether we need to return to wearing face coverings in communal areas.

I will be insisting on a return to higher levels of hand hygiene to reduce the spread of covid, flu, cold viruses and the norovirus. Please encourage your child to follow the hand hygiene protocol (they are welcome to bring in their own pocket hand gels if they wish). Your support is greatly appreciated in our attempt to keep your child as safe as possible in school.

We are conscious that the weather is going to get colder after half term. Whilst we will be firing up the boilers over half term and will have the heating on, we ask that you consider the following to help your child stay warm as we will be continuing to ventilate the buildings to reduce the transmission of the Covid virus:

1. Wear a school jumper
2. Wear a plain white long sleeved T-shirt under their school shirt

We have continued to work hard on our three key values which have become our mantra since returning from lockdown:

Kindness
Community
Inclusivity

We continue to work hard to uphold the highest possible standards for all members of our community, on their way to and from the campus and whilst on site with us.

The vast majority of students on the campus have responded to these and understand what we are trying to achieve. We will continue to work hard with those students who haven't yet understood that they too have a part to play as members of our community.

In the week beginning Monday 1st November we will be working with those students who are not dressed according to our uniform policy. We will be paying particular attention to the following which are NOT part of the policy:

- Hoodies
- Nose piercings that are not small and transparent
- Other items of jewellery not allowed under our policy (bracelets, necklaces, tongue piercings, more than one pair of stud piercings)
- Trainers (be aware that some shops sell shoes that they class as suitable for school but are in fact trainers)
- Boots

In the week beginning Monday 8th November we will be focusing on equipment again. We will be paying particular attention to the following items which we often find are missing from students' pencil cases:

- Highlighter pens – useful to have at least two colours
- A long ruler
- A green pen
- Scientific calculator
- Coloured pencil crayons
- At least two black pens
- At least one sharpened pencil

Year 11 mocks start on Monday 8th November and students will need to bring their writing equipment in a **clear pencil case** as Ofqual's exam regulations only permit these. They also need to write in black pen only, hence we insist on this becoming routine from Year 7 onwards.

If you are struggling financially please email me

(stthomas@wykhampark-aspirations.org)

over the next few days and we will support in whatever way we can.

A couple of dates for your diary

Friday 26th November 2021

INSET day: The majority of students will not be in school. We are looking at a plan for some key Year 11s who need extra support to join.

Thursday 16th December 2021

Break up for the Christmas holidays (the staff voted for Friday 17th December as their extra bank holiday for the Queen's jubilee).

We will be teaching the full day and ask that all parents make sure that their child is in school that day.

Enjoy the rest of the half term and Happy Halloween.

Kind regards



Sylvia Thomas
Principal of Banbury Aspirations Campus