

24th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Update letter for families – 24th September

This week I'd like to say a particular well done to all students (particularly Year 11s) who have been ambassadors for the Meet the Tutor Evenings. We received terrifically positive feedback about them from our visiting parents and carers. Your feedback means a lot to the students here, thank you.

We are pleased to see the overwhelming majority of students wearing full school uniform, correctly. The School's high standards of uniform are important. This means shirts should be tucked in, uniform worn correctly (without adaptations), jewellery rules apply and students should not wear trainers (unless they have a verified medical issue). This is being modelled really well by students on site. Let's keep this going, as it really does make a difference.

Mirroring the national picture, Covid cases within the locality are still on the increase and we have had a number of staff and students absent this past week, with the latter group accessing blended learning. Where possible, we are doing our best to limit the amount of cover lessons for pupils by rotating teachers with classes. Staff are slowly returning; and on a positive note, it was great to read that our locality has some of the highest Covid testing rates in Cambridgeshire, so well done to you all for keeping this up as we work together to keep each other safe.

By way of a reminder, please encourage your child to test twice weekly testing at home, on a Monday and Thursday and report the results to both the school, via **Test Register** and to the [NHS](#).

Please read on for essential updates.

Covid-19 vaccine for children aged 12-15

Vaccinations are scheduled for Thursday 30th September 2021. Should you have any questions regarding the vaccination and the process, please only contact the NHS-commissioned [School Age Immunisation Service](#) (SAIS) using this [link](#) or Telephone: 0300 555 5055.

Year 6 Open Evening

We are excited to announce that we are welcoming prospective Year 7 students and families to our Year 6 Open Evening on the 30th of September. Although the presentation tickets have sold out, any Year 6 students and families that have not secured tickets are welcome to tour the school between 4.30pm – 6pm and attend the Q&A session at 6.30pm.

Visiting school during the school day to collect your child?

A polite reminder, as per our safeguarding protocols, parents/carers must show photo ID to staff at Reception. Students will not be released to parents/carers without a valid photo ID.

Please note the contact details for your child's Raising Standards Lead (RSL):

- Year 7: Mrs Craig (acting RSL) and Ms Peattie. Our new RSL, Ms Lane will be joining us after October half term.
- Year 8: Mr Mann
- Year 9: Mrs Khan
- Year 10: Ms Beel
- Year 11: Mrs Glen

All RSLs can be contacted via the [Contact Us](#) section of our website.

Assessment

- Year 7 assessment tests continue with CAT4 cognitive tests on Monday. Reading and spelling tests will also be taking place during English lessons next week.
- The Year 12 testing window opens 27.09.21 revision lists and resources should now be available on Teams.

Spirit

Next week is Humility Week and we will be rewarding students for putting in more effort than they need to in lessons, form time, extra-curricular activities and around the school.

Headteacher Commendations

The following students have received a Headteacher Commendation this week. They will receive 10 spirit points and special postcard home.

| Student | Recognised for |
|----------------|---|
| Zeng Liu | <i>Passion: Producing an outstanding piece of non-fiction writing for his English summer task</i> |
| Summer Brennan | <i>Passion: Superb knowledge demonstrated in STEM lessons</i> |
| Laura Newton | <i>Passion: Superb knowledge demonstrated in STEM lessons</i> |
| Charlie Mayes | <i>Passion: For writing a brilliant article on the benefits of running</i> |
| Ben Murphy | <i>For regularly going out of his way to help staff and students</i> |

If you would like to nominate someone for an Abbey College Spirit Award then please follow this [link](#).

Car drop-offs and collections

In the interest of health and safety, we ask that cars do not stop along Hollow Lane around our start and finish times as it causes traffic congestion and blind spots for children crossing.

When entering Hollow Lane, please only drop-off or collect beyond the Abbey Road entrance to school on the left, along Hollow Lane. Alternatively, we are aware that the Abbey Green public parking spaces are available, but we cannot guarantee this. Neither area will be directly monitored by staff because they need to be deployed elsewhere in the school to facilitate student entry and exit around the campus.

Feeling worried or anxious?

Please use the dedicated button  on our website to confidentially raise concerns or to request support, including:

- Peer Mediation, to help students resolve any friendship issues they may have;
- Reporting a concern about the bus;
- Reporting unkindness or bullying;
- Ask for support with anxiety.

Please continue to take good care of yourselves.

Yours faithfully



Andy Christoforou
Headteacher

Parent Forum next meeting – 12th October 4:30pm

Please take [our survey to share](#) any questions or themes you would like the Parent Forum to put to the school in their next meeting, where they will be discussing our approach towards teaching and learning, pre-loved uniform and parental guarantees. The survey closes on the 6th October.

To join the forum, volunteer for fundraising, or suggest a theme for a future meeting, send us a line at: parentforum@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

Find our minutes here: [Parent Forum - Abbey College, Secondary School and Sixth Form in Ramsey](#)

Cheryl Greyson – Chair of Parent's Forum

Parent Diary Dates 2020-21

| Date | Activity/Event |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Thursday 30th September | Year 6 Open Evening (4.30-6.30pm) |
| Thursday 7th October | Year 11 Meet the Tutor Event and Abbey College Sixth Form Open Evening (4.30-6.30pm) |
| Thursday 14th October | Year 11 Virtual Parents' Evening (4.30-7.30pm) |
| Thursday 21st October | School Photographer visit for Years 7, 10 and 12 |
| Friday 22nd October | School closed – additional holiday for Queen's Platinum Jubilee |
| Monday 25th to Friday 29th October | School closed – half term |
| Monday 1st November | School closed – INSET day |
| Tuesday 2nd November | Students return - Autumn Term 2 |