

21<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Update letter for families – 21<sup>st</sup> October**

Thank you to all families for supporting the safety measures we implemented during the past two weeks. The LA, remain very concerned about the continual increase in infection rates and spread of Covid during the half term break, and have asked schools to share the following video with families: [Be Part Of The Solution](#), which reminds every one of the need to remain vigilant, especially around Halloween. Therefore after half term and until further notice, we will continue to expect that students wear face masks in all corridors and communal areas but not in classrooms, unless students are exempt. No student will be penalised for not wearing a face covering.

Thank you also for your continued support with Covid-19 home testing. This week, we have distributed another box of seven LFD tests to your child, with which they should continue to test twice weekly throughout the October half term and on the evening before returning to school. Please continue to record your child's results on [TestRegister](#) as well as the [NHS Results Website](#).

By way of a reminder, the rescheduled date for the Covid vaccinations of 12-15 years olds is Friday 19th November. To provide your consent, click this link: [COVID-19 Consent](#) and using the School Code: EE137377. If you have any queries, please only contact the NHS-commissioned [School Age Immunisation Service \(SAIS\) Team](#) using this [link](#) or Telephone: 0300 555 5055. Please note that the Covid vaccine programme is led by the NHS, not the School.

Please read on for essential updates.

### **Assessment**

- The Year 9 Autumn Data Capture and the Year 12 Autumn Progress Report can be accessed through the Sims app. Connection issues with the Sims app can be sent straight through to the Data Team using the mailbox [simssupport@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:simssupport@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk) Please note that the Data Team will answer all queries in the week after the holiday.
- Year 7 and 8 assessments are taking place after half term. Revision lists should be on Teams.
- Year 11 Trial Examination begin w/c 22.11.21, with Year 13 starting on 06.12.21. Year 11 students should have revision timetables ready and are expected to prepare during half term. In the event that summer exams are cancelled, the data from the Autumn tests will be used, for both year groups, to help determine the Teacher Assessed Grades or TAGs.

### **Remembrance Service**

Our annual Remembrance Service will take place on 11th November where our CCF students will be parading along with representatives from the cadets.

### **Ethos and Behaviour**

We are very proud of the way our students have approached school life this half term. The number of removals from lessons has reduced by a third in comparison with last year, and the number of Spirit points awarded to students has doubled.

## Uniform

Please ensure that your child returns to school after the half term break wearing black, leather school shoes. Students will receive a 'tell' each day that they are wearing incorrect footwear. If your child has a medical reason for wearing alternative footwear then please contact [gary.gregory@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:gary.gregory@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk).

## 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.

Half term has finally arrived and all our students have done really well, and our school attendance figures are still above the LA average, which is pleasing. Thank you all for your support. The overall sense of can-do in our community continues to be a source of motivation.

Finally, with Halloween and Guy Fawkes Night on the horizon, I would ask that families remind their child(ren) of the need be safe, especially if going out in the dark. Please encourage your child(ren) to be aware of their surroundings and personal safety, and that of others.

I do hope everyone has a restful break and takes time to recharge. We look forward to seeing all students return bright and early on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Please continue to take good care of yourselves.

Yours faithfully



Andy Christoforou, Headteacher

Parent Diary Dates 2021-22	Activity/Event
Friday 22nd October	School closed – additional holiday for Queen's 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
Wednesday 3rd November	The Winter Showcase musical performance 6-7:30pm
Thursday 4th November	Year 10 virtual parents' evening 4:30-7:30pm
Thursday 11th November	Remembrance Service 11:00am
Thursday 11th November	Sixth Form Meet the Tutor virtual event 4:30-6:30pm
Tuesday 16th November	Year 8 STEM day
Friday 19th November	COVID student vaccinations – rescheduled date
Thursday 25th November	Year 8 virtual parents' evening 4:30-7:30pm
Monday 29th November	Year 7-11 nasal administration flu vaccinations