

17th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Update letter for families – 17th September

You will probably be aware that the government has this week decided to offer the Covid-19 vaccine to all children aged 12-15 in England this autumn. The vaccination programme will be administered and run by healthcare staff from the NHS-commissioned [School Age Immunisation Service \(SAIS\)](#), who will be legally responsible for the delivery of the vaccine. You can read the government's [full guidance on the vaccination programme here](#).

A summary of the guidance is below:

- Like all school-based vaccination programmes, the vaccines will be administered by the SAIS and will follow the usual approach to school-based immunisation.
- A consent form and information leaflet provided by the SAIS Team will be used to seek parental consent. Parents will also be provided with a contact number for the SAIS Team in case of any queries. Forms should be returned by the deadline agreed with the team.
- If you have any comments to make, please direct them to the SAIS Team once the information has been sent home.

Schools will play a limited role in supporting the programme. We will perform the following tasks:

- provide information to the SAIS provider on which children on the school roll are eligible for the vaccine;
- share the information leaflet, consent form and invitation letter supplied by the SAIS team with parents and children;
- provide the space within school, and the time away from the timetable, to enable vaccinations to take place.

I am aware that vaccination and issues of consent are a matter that some people hold strong views about. I wish to make it clear to all parents and carers that no school staff or members of the Governors will be drawn into discussion or correspondence around the matter.

I have instructed staff to offer no advice or comment on the matter to either students or families. The only information we will share will be official information provided by SAIS or the government, or details regarding the process such as the consent forms, reminders and invitation letters.

I encourage all of you to carefully read the guidance, the supporting '[Useful Links](#)' and [FAQs](#) that I have [linked](#) within this letter. It is detailed and covers all the aspects around consent and the vaccination itself that you are likely to need.

We will be in contact in due course with further details when they become available.

Please read on for essential updates.

Covid home testing

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](#).

Assessment

- Year 7 assessment tests continue with Science on Monday and English on Tuesday. These are not timed tests, students can request to stay on and finish the tests after the majority of students are released.
- The Year 10 testing window opens 20.09.21 revision lists and resources should be available shortly on MS Teams.
- The Year 12 testing window opens 27.09.21 revision lists and resources should be available shortly on MS Teams.

SIMS app and Parent Pay

If you are still struggling to access your online accounts please email the following addresses with the students name, year group and school to:

- Parent pay support: help@cmat.support
- SIMS support: simssupport@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

Spirit

Next week is Passion 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.

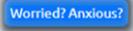
Student	Recognised for
Holly Walker	<i>Producing an excellent article on her interest in photography</i>
Vincent Forkner	<i>Passion: Producing very good coursework in PE and being proactive in getting feedback and support</i>
Gracie Butler	<i>Passion: Excellence in the first hockey fixture of the year</i>
Cameron Hunter	<i>Passion: Excellence in the first hockey fixture of the year</i>
Jenson White	<i>Passion: Outstanding efforts in performing arts</i>
Sienna Darling	<i>Humility: Giving a warm welcome to new staff members</i>
Andrew Jobson	<i>Humility: For stopping to help someone who was injured</i>

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

Blazers

As part of our Uniform Policy, students are expected to wear their blazers at all times around the school and therefore, they must have their blazer with them every day. If they are given permission from their class teacher, they may remove them in the classroom.

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 Diary Dates 2020-21

Date	Activity/Event
Thursday 23rd September	Meet the Tutor Event – Years 9 and 10 (4.30-6.30pm)
Tuesday 28th September	Year 7 STEM Day
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

Vacancies at Abbey College

Exams Officer

We are currently recruiting for an Exams Officer, please use the link below for details. This is a non-teaching post, which is 37 hours per week and is term time plus 15 days. If you are interested, please review the information on our website. If you would like to discuss the post in more detail please get in touch via the contact emails on the advert. The deadline for applications is 9am on Monday 20th September.

For more information, please see the [Vacancies](#) section of our website. Alternatively, if you would prefer to speak to someone about this role, please contact Lara Fowler via the [Contact Us](#) section of our website.