

26th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Update letter for families – 26th November

This week saw the start of the Year 11 Trial Examinations, an important moment for GCSE students to benchmark their progress. It was a wonderful sight to see the after school Interact Sessions full of Year 11 students revising with their teachers and peers. Given the lack of experience in sitting a formal exam in a hall, their behaviour was exemplary and we wish the best of luck as these assessments continue until Friday 3rd December.

A reminder to families that keeping classrooms well ventilated is one of our main controls, and several classrooms are now fitted with CO₂ meters that signal to staff when to open windows. Given the weather has changed, we advise that students consider wearing their school jumpers under their blazers to help maintain a good level of thermal comfort. If families require support in acquiring a school jumper, please contact our Welfare Team on welfare@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk.

As we move into December next week, I want to highlight our usual end of term Christmas Market that takes place during the final day of this term, which will see the school end at 1pm for all students. More detail to follow closer to the time.

Please read on for essential updates.

6th Form UCAS applications

Year 13 students continue to submit their applications to UCAS and for Degree Apprenticeships. Thus far, students have received Conditional Offers to study: Maths, Physics, Engineering, Law, Bio-Medical Sciences and Psychology. Four students have also received invitation to interview for courses at Cambridge University with a further two students receiving interview invitations for nursing.

Reporting Behaviour Concerns

If you want to report any concerns to us regarding behaviour, please use this [link](#) on the website. Our SSO Team will then investigate the issue in line with our Behaviour Policy.

Covid updates

Please encourage your child(ren) to test twice a week and to record their results on [TestRegister](#) as well as the [NHS Results Website](#)

Families are reminded that they can also have their child vaccinated at a local vaccination site, by booking an appointment using the National Booking Service here: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/

Advice is also available on how to find your child's NHS number by visiting the following page: www.england.nhs.uk/contact-us/how-can-we-help/how-can-i-find-out-my-nhs-number/

On arrival at the vaccination site, parents can give verbal consent to have their child vaccinated.

More information on the COVID vaccination programme for 12 to 15-year-olds can be found here: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine for children aged 12 to 15 - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) Advice issued recently says that if a child has had a positive COVID-19 test and is at high risk, they should wait for at least 4 weeks from the date of the positive test and until they are recovered to make their vaccination appointment. Other children ideally should wait 12 weeks from a positive test.

Teaching and Learning update

Staff are helping students understand their own progress in lessons, by using a range of strategies that show their knowledge. In lessons, teachers will be checking understanding regularly, and will be adapting lessons as they teach to ensure that all students can make progress. In Maths, this may be writing on desks (in wipeable pen!) so that teachers can see the working out and address any misconceptions, or in Art by looking at other students' work, or in English by asking students what makes a good answer. By ensuring students are kept aware of where they are and what they can do, we are helping them to improve.

Assessment

- Year 13 Trial Examinations begin w/c 06.12.21.
- Year 8 progress reports are available on the Sims app.
- Year 7 progress reports will be published at the end of next week.
- For help with the Sims app please contact: simssupport@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

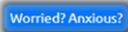
Headteacher Commendations

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

Student	Recognised for
<i>Kenya D</i>	<i>Consistently demonstrating humility, intuition and passion</i>
<i>Ellie H</i>	<i>Consistently demonstrating humility, intuition and passion</i>
<i>Tobias S</i>	<i>Consistently demonstrating humility, intuition and passion</i>
<i>Greta A</i>	<i>Making an excellent start to Abbey college</i>
<i>Harry A</i>	<i>Making an excellent start to Abbey college</i>
<i>Max T</i>	<i>Consistently working hard and showing the Abbey College Spirit</i>
<i>Isobel A</i>	<i>Consistently working hard and showing the Abbey College Spirit</i>
<i>Samuel D</i>	<i>A great effort in stepping up to KS4</i>
<i>Phoebe B</i>	<i>Stepping up to KS4 in such a mature manner</i>

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

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 2021-22

<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity/Event</i>
<i>Monday 29th November</i>	<i>Year 7-11 nasal administration flu vaccinations</i>
<i>Thursday 2nd December</i>	<i>Year 7 virtual parents' evening 4:30-7:30pm</i>
<i>Thursday 16th December</i>	<i>Year 11 results release evening 4:30-6:30pm</i>
<i>Friday 17th December</i>	<i>Last day of term – Christmas Market – school closes 1pm</i>
2022	
<i>Tuesday 4th January</i>	<i>Inset Day – staff only in school</i>
<i>Wednesday 5th January</i>	<i>Students return 8:30am</i>
<i>Tuesday 25th January</i>	<i>Year 9 STEM day</i>
<i>Wednesday 26th January</i>	<i>Year 13 UCAS deadline</i>
<i>Thursday 27th January</i>	<i>Year 9 virtual parents' evening 4:30-7:30pm</i>
<i>Monday 14th-Friday 18th February</i>	<i>Half term – school closed</i>
<i>Monday 21st February</i>	<i>Inset Day – staff only in school</i>
<i>Tuesday 22nd February</i>	<i>Students return 8:30am</i>