



# THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL

## A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

London Road  
Buckingham  
MK18 1AT

Tel: 01280 812206

Fax: 01280 822525

Email: [office@buckinghamsschool.org](mailto:office@buckinghamsschool.org)

Website: [www.buckinghamsschool.org](http://www.buckinghamsschool.org)

Headteacher: Mr A McGinnes

23 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you with a further update on the recent cases of Covid-19 in our community.

Headlines:

- The school is fully closed tomorrow, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November, as previously published
- The Sixth Form remain engaged in remote learning, and should return on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November
- Year 8 will engage in remote learning for the rest of this week (Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November), returning to school on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November

A number of further cases emerged in our Sixth Form, but no further action is required in relation to that Year Group as a whole, and they will return to school, as above.

Unfortunately, though almost inevitably, we have now growing numbers of cases amongst our staffing body. Like our students, each and every confirmed case, or contact with a confirmed case, means that member of staff has to self-isolate for 14 days. They cannot, therefore, be at work, ensuring the safe supervision of our students. We now have levels of staff absence which mean it is becoming unsafe to operate, even with the Sixth Form currently engaged in remote learning. We do not have enough adults to safely supervise our students. Therefore, we have taken the decision in the first instance to reduce the numbers of students in school for the remainder of this week. After our closure tomorrow, Year 8 will continue to engage in remote learning, returning to school on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

We are doing absolutely everything we can to remain open and provide a quality education. However, the safe running of the school has always been my stated first priority and, from the perspective of the safety and well-being of both our students and our staff, we feel that we have no choice. Indeed, with reluctance, I ask parents and carers to expect further disruption to our full opening over the coming period of days or even weeks.

When your child/ren is engaged in remote learning, during the current national restrictions, they are expected and required to stay at home all day and to engage with the work that is prepared for them. We fully understand the pressures that these arrangements cause to our families, but please ensure that your child/ren are at home during these remote learning days.

As Headteacher, I regularly consult with colleagues in this area and further afield. The one thing I am very clear on is the fantastic support that this community gives its school, and this is so encouraging to our staff, who are giving their all every day.

Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time.

Yours faithfully

**Mr A McGinnes**

Headteacher

[aallen@buckinghamsschool.org](mailto:aallen@buckinghamsschool.org)

*The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to Mrs K Bones at [kbones@buckinghamsschool.org](mailto:kbones@buckinghamsschool.org), if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.*

