

THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

Headteacher: Mr A McGinnes

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27 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Further to recent communications about cases of Covid-19 in our school community, I am writing to update you and to inform you about some decisions that have been made, to allow for the safe running of the school next week.

Headlines:

- The Sixth Form return on Monday. Students and parents should read carefully a letter from Mrs Pykett
- Year 8 will return to school on Monday and the day will run completely as normal
- Year 9 will engage with remote learning for the first three days of next week (Monday 30th November Wednesday 2nd December), returning to school on Thursday 3rd December

Yet to be confirmed:

• Advance notice that we are considering whether Year 10 will engage in remote learning on Thursday and Friday next week – this will be confirmed either way next week, once we further review staff absence levels

To reiterate from my previous letter, 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. At the time of writing, we have had no further cases of Covid-19 amongst our staff, which is a great relief. We have had no further cases outside of our Sixth Form, either. However, during these winter months, I ask the community to bear in mind that disruption to our full opening over the coming period of days, weeks and months remains likely.

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 we approach the weekend, please ensure that your child/ren are complying with the requirements of the national restrictions, which continue until midnight on Tuesday. On Wednesday 2nd December, we move into local restrictions. Buckinghamshire will be in Tier 2. This will not change any of the procedures in place at school, and have only a small

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impact on what is allowed outside of school. We will write to you next week with more detail about this.

Again, as I said last time: as Headteacher, I regularly consult with colleagues in this area and further afield. It feels like our community has pulled together in a way that many others have not. I can only thank you in these challenging times for all of us.

Yours faithfully

<u>Mr A McGinnes</u> Headteacher aallen@buckinghamschool.org

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