



15th January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

As ever I trust you are well and making the best of challenges facing us. I would like to give you a brief update on some key issues:

Curriculum Pathway Booklet

These have now been completed for all year groups. Guidance will be given to students during their Tutorial next Wednesday morning. In the meantime, copies can be found on the VLE under Curriculum Pathways

Tracking Attendance AM/PM

We continue to track AM and PM attendance. If your son or daughter does not appear to be on-line we will contact you. Of course, there may well be an entirely legitimate reason for this but we think this is an important routine to maintain during lockdown.

Tracking Engagement in lessons

One of the benefits of Microsoft Teams is the ability to monitor how active students are during lessons. So far this indicates that levels of engagement during lessons are very high which is excellent. When set against the completion of assignments etc. it should also provide us with a solid overview of how students are progressing during lockdown that goes beyond simply knowing whether a student has logged on.

Personal Development Challenge

This was launched this week and we have already seen a strong uptake amongst students. In case you missed it, here's Mr Roberts explaining how it works: <https://youtu.be/yEH62GG8aaU>

Survey about on-line learning

We will send out a randomised survey next week across all year groups which we will use to reflect upon the strengths and opportunities for improvement in terms of our on-line offer.

Year 11 Parents Evening

We have moved Y11 Parents Evening on-line now through a programme called Schoolcloud. We anticipate using this for any Parents Evening that is scheduled during lockdown. Guidance will be sent out accordingly.

Consent to be tested for Covid-19

Thank you to those people who have already submitted an on-line consent form for testing. Whilst we await government guidance on the strategy going forward, if you can provide this information it would be appreciated. Information can be found [here](#).

Exams

Some information was given out yesterday by the Government and we understand that there will be some form of consultation. When we know more we will of course be in touch. In the meantime, the advice remains: full steam ahead, please.

Finally, we are massively impressed by the hard work, resilience and engagement of all our students and I want to congratulate them on their commitment and as ever thank parents and carers for their support and patience.

Regards

Tim Long, Principal

