

4th November 2020

Dear Parent and Carer

Following some feedback about the difficulty of opening attachments to read official school letters on some mobile devices, we are trialling sending our communication in this email format. Shorter messages e.g. reminders about events, are already sent as 'In Touch' messages in an email style format. This does mean there can be no official school header or footer on the communication. However, as always, more formal letters will also be placed on the website under the Parents' Information tab, where they can be viewed in that format if you prefer. We would welcome any feedback on this in the coming weeks.

Updated Guidance

On Monday I wrote to explain that we were waiting on updated guidance for schools from the Department for Education following the Prime Minister's statement on Saturday. Yesterday afternoon, the daily email briefing that schools receive from the DfE did again confirm that there would be new guidance issued, but it did not state when this would be published. I am just confirming that is why we have not informed you about any of the potential changes: including the wearing of face coverings or the provision of after school clubs. As soon as we receive this I will update you at the first available opportunity. Until then, we will continue to work within the current recommended guidelines.

Cold Classrooms

One of the important aspects of our own Risk Assessment in minimising the risk of infection is ensuring that there is good ventilation in our classrooms e.g. windows open to the outside and doors open to the corridor. With the arrival of less favourable weather conditions, there are some classrooms that can become colder due to their location. We are fortunate that our Uniform Policy already states that our students must wear their jumper under their blazer at this time of year. However, we recognise there may be instances where some rooms become less comfortable. Staff have, therefore, been advised that if their room becomes too cold, then students will be allowed to wear their coat. Students are, of course, encouraged to consider wearing items under their school shirt as an extra layer if it is helpful. Students are not permitted to wear a hoodie or other jumper over the top of their school jumper.

I hope to be able to provide an update on other matters soon and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



David Herbert

