

18th April 2021

Coronavirus Update 40

I hope that you and your families are well and that you have been able to enjoy some time together. The better weather and the easing of certain restrictions will surely have helped.

So far as the school is concerned, however, we return to a regime that is very similar to the one with which we ended in the spring term. Our own return to school, you will remember, was one of the very first steps away from the national lockdown.

This means that we shall continue to work within zones, that lunchtimes will be phased and that government policy on the wearing of masks in classrooms is unchanged.

We have been doing our best to ensure a good flow of air through our classrooms, even where this has made them cooler than everyone would wish. Summer weather, I trust, will remove the need for outdoor coats to be worn during lessons. As I warned before the last term ended, we shall no longer be tolerant of students hoping to go through their day wearing an outside coat.

Another recent feature of school life which remains unchanged is the national programme of testing for COVID-19. We shall be distributing more lateral flow testing kits during the next few days. The expectation is that all secondary school students are tested twice weekly. Please continue to notify your results to NHS Test and Trace as well as to the school.

Meanwhile the core of our work goes on. For Years 13 and 11 this means a demanding programme of assessments in school as a substitute for the conventional GCSE and A-level exams. We are seeking to support them as constructively as we can.

With good wishes for the new term,



Natalie Waters