



Budges Gardens, Wokingham, RG40 1PX  
Tel: (0118) 334 1510

12<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to communicate with you all following the National Lockdown which was enforced last week and trust that families and indeed all in our school community are staying both safe and well.

For the last week we have worked tirelessly to ensure that all students, whether they are on site or working from home, receive as much as their normal timetable as possible and understand that for some of our cohort this has been incredibly challenging. Whilst I do not want students away from school I concede it is right and entirely necessary that we have now returned in some cases to remote learning.

As with this week, we will continue to teach live lessons for all remote learners as if they were in attendance to school and would ask that you support your son/daughter in being in attendance at the arranged times. Students and of course parents will have received new and individual bespoke remote learning lockdown timetables.

Attendance thus far for all remote learning lessons has been absolutely exceptional and an utter credit to students (and more probably their parents!).

Numbers of students' in-school have more than doubled since the first lock down. This is a concern given that schools are closed to most students in order to contain the spread of the virus in the community and as the Prime Minister confirmed that schools; "**act as vectors for transmission, causing the virus to spread between households**". We, of course, absolutely welcome providing for students who need to be in school but simply raise the issue that we seek to minimise transmission by **students learning at home where it is at all possible**. The new variant of the virus remains highly contagious and so forgive me in emphasising to parents not to send their sons or daughters to school if at all unwell with symptoms of Covid 19. Please see the attached letter from Sal Thirlway, Assistant Director of Children's Services (Learning, Achievement and Partnership), Wokingham Borough Council.

I will be communicating separately to our Year 11 cohort and their parents regarding the cancellation of the summer exams when further guidance is given from the department for education. In the meantime we will continue to educate all students as "There is no end to education. It is not that you read a book, pass an examination, and finish with education. The whole of life, from the moment you are born to the moment you die, is a process of learning."

Kind Regards  
Iain Thomas  
Deputy Headteacher