



October 12th 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

Parent Carer Forum, Thursday October 15th 5 - 6.30p.m.

Our Parent Carer forum meetings are designed to give us an opportunity to find out what is working well, understand any concerns and share next steps with parents and carers. Usually we pick a small number of key topics and ask for the views of parents and carers. We also ask for your input at an early stage if we are planning any big changes.

The forum meetings are really important to us and even though we cannot meet in person at this time, we are planning to go ahead using Zoom

In the first meeting this year, we would like to talk with interested parents and carers about the following:

- The return to school in September – what has gone well, even better if....?
- Remote Learning – our experience so far and your views on what works best for your child
- Social Media issues – how can we work together with parents and carers to reduce social media abuse / misuse by students?

This meeting will take place on Zoom and if you are interested in joining, you can register online here: <https://bit.ly/36Wo6pC> or contact Main Reception on 0121 453 1778. Please register before 9a.m. on Thursday October 15th and your Zoom link will be emailed by mid-day on Thursday 15th.

Uniform Reminder – No Hoodies from Half Term!

Thank you to parents and carers for adjusting to the change we made after the start of term to reduce the wearing of hoodies in school. We changed direction on this because it became obvious that the informality of hoodies was not helping students make the adjustments needed when they returned to school after such a long break.

From Half Term, all students will be asked to wear a school jumper as their extra layer for PE. In years 9, 10 and 11, students wishing to wear an extra layer over their shirt and under their blazer may only wear a school jumper. On days when classrooms are particularly cold, especially with the need for ventilation, students in all year groups may also wear a coat over their blazer.

We know that many students in years 10 and 11 in particular may have outgrown their school jumper. If the financial burden of a new jumper is an issue, please contact us as we are able to support with pre-loved jumpers if needed.

As ever, we do not accept facial piercings, brightly coloured hair/braids or any patterned shavings in hair /eyebrows so please remind your child not to take action over Half Term that will cause an issue on returning to school!



Half Term Dates and Safety

As I wrote to explain last week, school will be closed to all students on Friday October 23rd and to Years 7 & 11 on Monday November 2nd. If you are unable to find a safe and suitable alternative for your child on those days, you can request a place on-site using this link: <https://bit.ly/3d9Cfk9>. Please let us know by Friday October 16th so that we can plan accordingly.

The news regarding COVID-19 is worrying for all of us. It will be extremely important that our students maintain social distancing behaviours over the Half Term break so that as a community, we all stay and well. I am aware that this is a very stressful and difficult time for many families facing additional challenges and uncertainty. Please do reach out if we can be of any help or support.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher