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2 September 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Start of Autumn Term Letter

I felt it timely to write and update you on current matters regarding the return to school for our students on Friday. As you know, we have relaunched our asymptomatic testing site (ATS) and at the time of writing over 500 tests have been completed. Yesterday, we had our first positive test from the ATS and this demonstrates the importance of this initiative and home LFT testing to ensure asymptomatic cases are captured before coming into school and potentially spreading it. We must also be aware of the main symptoms of Covid, isolate and then book a PCR as soon as possible after displaying these. The main 3 symptoms are:

- A fever
- A new or continuous cough
- A loss of smell or taste

Face coverings will become optional unless otherwise directed by the government. Students and staff will have the option to wear these coverings at all points during the school day. The staggered start and finish times will no longer be in place and students should be ready, in their tutor rooms, each morning at 8.40am. Students will be dismissed at 2.55 Mon-Thurs and at 2.20 on a Friday.

Covid has not gone, I know that all too well having tested positive on Monday! As a community, we must be vigilant, alert and responsible to ensure that we can continue to get through this together.

However, things are looking more positive, and we are seeing changes which allow us to get school back to how it was. We will continue to focus on ventilation, hygiene, cleaning and hand sanitising as our main systems of control.

Please can you ensure you report your LFT results using the following link: <u>https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WwlpOb3F7ECiSBghIHVh9N02Psv</u> <u>m3NNCkK1RL4yiZbpUMzdMWldRV1ZUSUpBSTJQSUdHR1hORVNLSC4u</u>

In addition, please can I ask that any positive cases are reported to mescovidalert@maidenerleghtrust.org

Results

I was thrilled to see so many students come in and collect their results in mid-August. They did incredibly well, and we are proud of everyone's achievements. The headlines for this year's results are:

<u>GCSE & Level 2</u> 86% 4+ in English and Maths 75% 5+ in English and Maths Attainment 8 (average grade) 6.2 Progress 8 (estimated) 1.06

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<u>A Level & Level 3</u> A*-B 58% A*-C 79% A*-E 99% Average grade B-Value Added 0.28 Well done to the class of 2021!

Friday 3 September and Beyond

I wanted to reiterate the arrangements for Friday, so you are clear on the return times for students. Please can I ask that your children arrive on time as per the table below:

Year Group	Arrival Time	Meeting Place
7	8.30am for 8.40am start	Main Hall (Welcome Assembly)
8	10.00am	Tutor Rooms (N Block)
9	10.00am	Tutor Rooms (L Block)
10	10.00am	Tutor Rooms (C & S Block)
11	10.00am	Main Hall (Assembly)
12	8.25am – External Students (who previously didn't attend the school)	Sixth Form Centre
12	9.25am – Internal Students (who previous did attend the school)	Main Hall (Assembly)
13	10.00am	Large Dining Room (Assembly)
Violet College	9.00am	Violet College
Indigo Resource Base	8.30am for 8.40am start	Indigo Resource Base

The Maiden Erlegh Way

As Headteacher of this wonderful school, I will never apologise for having high standards. It is something that is evident throughout the school and Covid, whilst not lowering our expectations, did stop us from having some routines which allow our students to thrive. In the summer term I spent time creating 'The Maiden Erlegh Way', a simple document that outlines what we expect from our students. This document can be seen below:



This bullet point list of expectations will allow students to have purposeful and calm starts to each lesson and ensure that as a team we can all achieve the very best. Staff have their own 'Maiden Erlegh Way' which complements this, and we look forward to seeing it in action from September.

School Uniform

In September, we will return to 'business as usual' and students will be required to wear full school uniform every day. Students will change into their PE kit at the start of their practical PE lessons as normal. Full school uniform should be accompanied by black polishable shoes, with no logos, unless the student has a formal medical condition, with evidence supplied to their Head of Year (in advance). In addition to their uniform, we will continue to uphold the high standards we expect in terms of personal appearance.

Equipment for Learning (Y7-11)

All students are expected to have their own equipment for learning. All students are expected to have the equipment listed below contained within a transparent pencil case. This pencil case allows tutors to check the equipment of students quickly and easily. We appreciate that students may not be able to fit a scientific calculator and maths set in their transparent pencil cases and so we are happy for these to be carried separately in their school bags.

- Pens black/blue, green and red
- Writing pencils
- Coloured pencils
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener
- Glue stick
- 30cm ruler
- Maths set (containing protractor, compass, set square)
- Scientific calculator we recommend a Casio calculator FX-83GTX or FX-85GTX, however most scientific calculators are fine.
- At least 2 highlighters
- Transparent pencil case

We recognise that some families may at this time be experiencing financial hardship, if this is the case or you are in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, then please contact the relevant Head of Year, if you require additional support.

And finally...

We are excited to be welcoming the students back on Friday. Home test kits will be given out after the second on site test and anyone else will receive theirs in tutor on Monday. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gibson Headteacher