



The Talentum Learning Trust

Westwood
College

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Our Ref: TYL/jc

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Dear Parents/Carers

Westwood College Update

I hope that you and your families are well.

As we come to the end of the second week back after the summer break, and what for many has been a much longer break, I wanted to write to you to recognise the excellent manner in which students have returned this September.

As you will be aware, we are currently operating in a way that is very different to normal. Students spend the day within their year group bubbles, follow a one-way system and sanitise as they enter and leave each lesson. They are expected to wear masks when inside buildings (and optionally within classrooms), and to remain within designated social spaces at break and lunch times.

I am pleased and proud to say that the overwhelming majority have adhered to these expectations without question or protest, enabling us to teach and support them in the way that we need to at this time. For that, I am very grateful, and want to commend students on their approach.

On the rare occasions that students do not adhere to our expectations, we remind them of what is required and the reasons for our approach. We will continue to take this approach, though must make it clear that any deliberate or thoughtless disregard for these procedures will be taken seriously.

Whilst we have made a good start to the academic year, it is essential that we are in no way complacent. Students must continue to take personal responsibility for their behaviour, from bringing a mask to ensuring they sanitise and that they use the areas that have been designated for their year groups. On that note, it is important that students bring a coat when the weather is not favourable; they will be outside at break and lunch time in the fresh air whenever possible.

From Monday, we are going to be asking students in the Sixth Form to wear masks when using the Sixth Form Diner, the Senior Study and the Sixth Form Computer Room. This is in order to add an extra layer of precaution to our approach. We continue to review our Risk Assessment and our operating procedures, in line with both Government guidance and the local context, to ensure that we are reducing the risk as much as we can.

We continue to develop our Catch-up provision, particularly for students in Year 11. At present, the focus is predominantly on Maths and English, with extra time given to these subjects each week and, increasingly, opportunities for small group intervention work. We will continue to develop this provision, and will also be exploring revision guides and the option to purchase or supply them through school.



Whilst we hope that the school year will not be disrupted by any closures, we must of course prepare for this eventuality. We are currently working with students to ensure that they are confident in the use of their school email, Microsoft Teams and Office 365, and will shortly publish information on how the school timetable will operate in the event of any disruption.

As a final note, I would like to remind students and parents/carers of all the support that is available to them. Any student with any anxieties or concerns should speak to their tutor, their teachers, or their Head of Year. There are many ways in which we can help. Our aim is always that students are happy in school, and feel able to give their best.

Thank you for your ongoing support; please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any queries.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Taylor', written in a cursive style.

Mr M Taylor
Headteacher