



The Talentum Learning Trust

Westwood
College

**Westwood College, Westwood Park, Leek,
Staffordshire ST13 8NP**

telephone **01538 370930**
email **www.office@ttl.org.uk**
website **http://www.ttl.org.uk**

CEO & Executive Headteacher: Mr A Shaw
Headteacher: Mr M Taylor

Our Ref: TYL/jc

21st October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

End of Term Update

I hope that you and your families are well.

At the end of the first half-term of the 20-21 academic year, I wanted to write to you to give a general update and to look toward the next half-term to come.

The first eight weeks have, of course, had their challenges, but overall, they have seen a successful return to education for the vast majority of our students.

I would like to start by acknowledging the excellent conduct of students in adapting to the new expectations that we have had in place since September. Their adherence to these safety measures have allowed us to maintain a full curriculum for all students, and enabled us to give them at least a sense of normality in what are far from normal times. On that note, I would also like to thank both the teaching and support staff; their professionalism and commitment has been consistent despite the added complications that operating in this manner brings.

It is, however, essential that we maintain these standards and expectations as we move towards Christmas. Students must continue to adhere to the Risk Assessment, both for their own safety and that of others. Central to this is the maintenance of year group bubbles, especially during break and lunch time, and when leaving the site at the end of the day. Whilst we know that this is not ideal and that students would rather find their own spaces, it is crucial that we avoid the mixing of students from different year groups for the foreseeable future.

Next half-term will see examinations taking place at Westwood, not only in the shape of national resits and University entrance exams, but also in the trial examinations that take place in December for Year 11 students. We will be ensuring that there is plenty of support available as students prepare for these assessments and, whilst they are important, we will strive to put students' minds at ease.

Next half-term will also see the completion of UCAS applications for many of our Year 13 students and the resumption (in a limited fashion) of our Duke of Edinburgh programme. We will continue to review the feasibility of running extra-curricular clubs, from sports to revision, and hope to be able to offer more in these areas where we can be sure it is safe to do so.

The half-term break will be a welcome rest for students and the chance to recharge batteries ahead of the next half-term. We encourage students to keep themselves safe and to keep to the Government's guidelines, particularly in



terms of how they socialise. Any students or parents who feel that they need extra support should consult our website for links to wellbeing support (<https://www.tlt.org.uk/students/support-for-students/>).

Please feel free to contact the school if you require further support or if we can help in any other way.

Keep an eye out for this half-term's edition of Westwood News, which should be published by the end of the week.

Yours faithfully

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

Mr M Taylor
Headteacher