

25 May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I very much hope you and your family are safe and well at this time. This letter provides an update for you but I would also urge you to read the newsletter that will be shared later this week.

PCR COVID tests

Thank you to pupils for their cooperation with Public Health in completing the recent PCR tests. You will be aware based on our previous communication that there has been a local increase in cases, particularly with the Indian variant, and we, along with Hall Green Infant and Junior Schools were asked to take part in surge testing at the end of last week. To reassure you, we have only had one case in school in the last two weeks. Pupils are still expected to attend but must wear a face mask again in classrooms and communal areas. Whilst it is frustrating as the rest of the country's lockdown measures are easing, we will continue to follow all local guidance to ensure our pupils and staff are as safe as possible.

Dress Code – September 2021

Please see the attached Dress Code which will come into effect in September at the start of the new school year. There have been a few slight changes. Based on pupil and parent feedback, the shirt colour is now white only; white shirts have been chosen as they are more readily available and thus cheaper. We are sharing this information with you now so that preparations can be made ready for September. The current Dress Code is in place until the end of term.

Mobile phone policy

A reminder that whilst pupils are allowed to bring mobile phones into school, they must not be seen or heard inside the building at any time. Pupils may listen to music through in-ear headphones at break and lunch times when outside the building. This policy is intended to maximise pupil performance whilst ensuring pupils are safe through avoiding the misuse of phones e.g. taking photos/videos. If a pupil breaches the policy, their phone will be confiscated for up to 5 days. If a pupil is caught using their phone inappropriately, their phone will be confiscated and an appropriate sanction put in place.

Medical information

Please ensure you keep us up to date with any changes to your child's medical needs, including allergies. If pupils purchase food from the canteen and have an allergy, it is essential they speak with the catering team if they are unsure of the ingredients of any item. The area manager for Chartwells will be in school on Monday 7 June and is happy to meet with any pupils who wish to get further advice about what food they can eat from the school menu based on any allergies. Please contact the school office if your child wishes to be part of this session.

Parent/Carer governor vacancy

We currently have a vacancy on our Governing Body. Please see the separate letter attached regarding this vacancy and how to apply if interested.

Key Dates

- Friday 28 May: Break up for half term at normal dismissal time
- Monday 7 June: Return to school at normal time
- Wednesday 9 June: Early dismissal for GCSE moderation
 - Year 7 and 8, 12.05 pm
 - Year 9 and 10, 12.15 pm.

I would like to wish all our families a restful, enjoyable, and safe break.

Yours faithfully

D Matt

Miss K Slater Headteacher

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