



**Our Ref:** HeadteacherSA: parental ltrs/POS/JOD  
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Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been two weeks now since our return from the half-term holiday and as we approach December, I would like to update you on various aspects of school life.

Last week saw further national restrictions from 5<sup>th</sup> November and DfE published guidance for schools on 4<sup>th</sup> November. The main change for us was that we had to cancel Sports Clubs and other extra-curricular activities for this period until 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Government have now also supported Cheshire East regarding face coverings. As you know face coverings are mandatory in corridors and communal areas (unless exempt). Thank you for your support with this safety measure as student response has been very positive.

Year 11 students have just completed mock examinations this week. There is much media attention at the moment around the topic of examinations but at this stage currently we have been informed that the cohort will sit examinations in the summer but a few weeks later than in previous years.

The mocks have gone well and allow staff to monitor progress, intervene, give feedback and produce predicted grades and rankings. We will communicate dates for external (summer) examinations as soon as we have them.

One of our safety measures is to ventilate rooms where possible. This will inevitably mean that some classrooms are colder than usual as we enter the winter months. I would encourage school jumpers to be worn if students are feeling cold. Hoodies are not permitted in school in line with our Uniform Policy. The long-sleeved v-necked jumpers are already part of the school uniform and would be the most sensible choice if students are cold to add an insulating layer of clothing.

We have recently expanded some practical activity/lessons for Year 10 students, and we will continue to monitor this and look for opportunities to expand further. This will be difficult though under current restrictions in line with **DfE Guidance for full opening: schools**

Finally, it was great to see students engaging in our virtual Remembrance Assembly this week. This comprised of a short presentation, a virtual wreath laying ceremony and readings by our Senior Team of Year 11 students followed by 'The Last Post' playing in our Assembly Hall. It was much different to the usual way we mark Remembrance but the response from students was very positive.

Yours sincerely

D Postlethwaite  
 Headteacher

