

4th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to all parents, carers and students for your continued attendance in school. Whilst we all start to appreciate the easing of lockdown, please remember to continue to follow the local restrictions in place.

Government guidance states that face coverings should still be worn in schools, please continue to provide your child with a suitable face covering. Disposable face coverings are available from the main office for 50p, you can pay for these on via Scopay. Please check your child's account to see if there are any facemask payments outstanding.

The guidance for school remains unchanged. School is open to all students unless they are unwell or required to isolate. **If your child or anyone in your household has symptoms or is awaiting a test result they should isolate and not come to school.** Please alert school if your child receives a positive Covid-19 test result via the email address [C19alert@nestonhigh.com](mailto:C19alert@nestonhigh.com). This continues to be monitored out of hours and parents/carers of students who are required to isolate will be contacted by text and email. **Please be aware we are still required to continue to isolate potential close contact students and staff as we approach the festive period.**

There is much speculation in the press about changes in requirements for student isolation periods if they have been identified as a close contact in a school setting. The guidance currently remains unchanged, however we will of course update you should any updates be made.

### Year 11 and 13 exam series 2021

This week the Dfe announced changes to the 2021 exam series for GCSE and A-Levels students. We understand that the anxiety for some students is high and we continue to support them. The full information has not yet been published, however as soon as we receive this we will communicate this fully with students, parents and carers.

This week our Year 11 students have been sitting Centre Assessed Exams. We have been incredibly proud of how they have conducted themselves and the commitment they have shown to the process. These Centre Assessments continue next week. Parents and Carers of students in Year 12 and 13 have already received information about their Centre Assessed Exams which will take place from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January.

### Year 9 Options

As you are aware, the current circumstances have meant that we are unable to hold our annual options evening in school for Year 9 students and their parents/carers. A virtual 'Year 9 Options' page will be available from next week on our website to provide lots of information about the content and context of courses available for students when they move into the Key Stage 4 part of their learning journey.

### Appointments in the school day

We understand that it is not always possible to arrange dental and medical appointments out of school hours and there may be occasions where you need to request permission for your child to leave school

to attend a medical appointment. When making such requests, may we please request that you provide a copy of the appointment record, this can be a photograph attached to the email request.

### Coats

As part of our covid-19 risk assessment to limit students mixing indoors, the school doors do not open for some year groups until 8.30am. Large periods of break and lunchtimes are also spent outside. As the temperatures have now dropped please ensure your child brings a coat to school to wear whilst they are outside the school building.

### Last day of term

School closes for the Christmas break at **1.15pm** on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Buses will leave from school at this time. School re-opens on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

As always, I wish you a safe and restful weekend.

K Simpson  
Headteacher