



Issue No 10

Friday 19 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

This week is national Anti-Bullying week. To support this, our school community continues to focus on the importance of tolerance and respect through assemblies and tutorial sessions. Within our messaging, we are encouraging students to 'speak out' when they witness issues of concern, using our pastoral offices. We seek to widen this message to parents and carers so that concerns raised at home are reported to college teams as soon as they are raised.

### Behaviour Policy

Please have a look at our new [\(positive\) Behaviour Policy](#) which emphasises the three principles of Positivity, Respect and Kindness. We are encouraging all members of our school community, to aim to behave in a Positive, Respectful and Kind way at all times.

### Covid-19

**Vaccinations** The Covid vaccinations scheduled to take place in school on Monday 22 November 2021 have been cancelled by the Immunisations Team. We are awaiting news regarding a new date for the students who did not receive the vaccine last week. We apologise for any inconvenience. These arrangements are out of our control.

Covid vaccinations for 12-17 year olds - guidance changed on 18 November 2021. Health professionals now recommend that there is a gap of 12 weeks (rather than 4) between having had Covid and receiving the vaccine. If you have consented for your child to have the vaccine in school and you believe they fall into this new category please contact the school to withdraw your consent and we will inform the Immunisation Team.

**New Suffolk Guidelines** An important letter was sent out to parents on 16 November 2021. [A link to it is here.](#) We appreciate your help and support with the testing and reporting of student test results.

**Testing** LFD test kits are always available from main reception. Test kits will be given out to all year groups in assembly next week. Where daily testing is required for close contacts, we would ask families to acquire additional LFD tests from local pharmacies or order them online through the NHS website. More information can be found here: [Latest guidance COVID-19 | Suffolk County Council](#). Links for reporting all test results to the school are [on our website homepage](#).

**Symptoms** Here is the extended list of Covid symptoms (not just the published three). The school has experienced many of these symptoms translating into positive Covid cases amongst students:

- Fever and chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body ache
- Headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhoea

**Masks** A reminder that students should wear masks in school communal areas unless medically exempt. They should also wear them on school and public transport. Please ensure that your child brings a face mask with them each day, and that they have a couple of spares in their school bag. This will really help us at school.

### Jubilee Bank Holiday

To commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, there is an additional bank holiday on Friday 3 June 2022. The DfE have amended the Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations to reduce the 2021/22 school year for maintained schools by one day to account for this additional bank holiday. This

reduces the number of pupil contact days from 190 to 189.

As 3 June 2022 falls during half term, we will be taking **Friday 1 July 2022** as this extra day. School will be closed on this day creating a four day weekend as Monday 4 July 2022 is a staff training day.

### Safeguarding Information

We regularly speak to students and parents regarding self-harm. We thought it might be helpful to [share this video](#) and [pdf Parent /Carer guide](#) about how you can support your child, should they feel the need to find coping strategies. If you are worried and need additional support please contact your child's Pastoral Support manager or Head of College.

### Year 7 Parents' Evening

Year 7 Parents' Evening will be held remotely on Wednesday 1 and Thursday 2 December using the [School Cloud](#), our online booking system. The system is now open for Year 7 parents to book appointments with Subject Teachers. The booking window will close at midday on Tuesday 30 November 2021.

### The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Year 9 parents and carers will have received a letter about the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. Don't forget to [complete the online form here](#) to register your interest and attend the live Teams meeting at 5.30pm on Tuesday 30 November 2021 to find out more.

### And finally ...

Our under 13 team won the West Suffolk Table Tennis tournament this week, hosted at the school. Well done!



Year 7s and 8s netball teams had two fixtures this week. On Tuesday we played Stowmarket High and both teams won their games - on Wednesday they played Mildenhall and again, both teams won. Congratulations to them both!

Here is the winning Year 8 team.



Beverley Tucker  
Co-Headteacher



Tom Grey  
Co-Headteacher

### Thought for the Week

**"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes.  
You can steer yourself any direction you choose."**

*Dr. Seuss*