

5<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

## Headteacher Update

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you all had a wonderful break!

We are really looking forward to seeing all our students tomorrow, either in person or remotely, for the new term as planned. Our intention, as always, is to run our academic curriculum and our extra-curricular activities as normal. However, we are ready and prepared to respond to changes such as increased levels of local transmission and new restrictions, if these situations arise. We are still living with COVID and will continue to implement mitigation systems and follow government guidance to protect our school community and their families.

Part of our mitigation measures continue to be well ventilated spaces. This means that windows and doors will be open. All students are required to wear their usual school uniform but I would strongly recommend that they wear their school jumpers beneath their blazers as the weather turns increasingly chilly. Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform and brings a warm coat to school too.

## Face Masks

On Sunday 2 January, the government issued further guidance indicating that face masks should now be worn in classrooms, as well as corridors, queues and communal areas (other than when eating). They do not need to be worn outdoors and we strongly encourage students to spend time outdoors and break and lunch, or to be in a well-ventilated indoor area. Students will be reminded how to use their masks safely but please go through this with them at home too.

Any student that is taking an examination should ensure that they continue to wear their mask until they are seated in their place in the examination hall.

We all need to be ultra-cautious over the next few weeks to keep each other safe - we all want education in its broadest sense to continue for everyone. We have some exciting events and activities to look forward to inside and outside the classroom this year, not least the long-awaited performance of 'Billy Elliot, the Musical' in February.

I hope 2022 will be a very happy and prosperous year for you all!

With best wishes,



**Cristina Taboada-Naya**  
Headteacher

