

Monday 9th November 2020.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a safe and enjoyable break during the half term period.

In light of my correspondence to you earlier today, this letter is a modified version of the one I had anticipated sending. Having only been back for slightly over a week, we are now only a handful of days into a second lockdown period. Like all of you, we hope that the preventative measures taken will have a positive impact on reducing the virus in our community and nationally. It is important that we all, as individuals and families, observe the new lockdown guidance carefully in order to protect everyone.

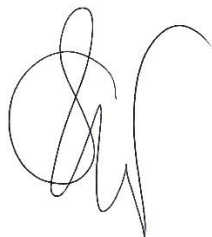
New government guidance was also issued to schools last week; there are very few changes to us at NSG as we have been operating in year group bubbles, with separate zones at break times and lunchtimes, since we returned to school in September and this has been working very well for us. We continue to provide hand sanitiser for students and staff in all classrooms and communal areas, though many students are also choosing to carry their own for more frequent use. Additionally, the government has now made it mandatory for students and staff to wear masks in corridors and walkways; again, we have been asking students to do this since the beginning of term and will continue to impress the importance of continuing this routine and encouraging them to keep wearing their masks when walking out of school also. Many of our students do this already, however we would like to see more of them doing this. It can be overwhelming for members of the community to be faced by large numbers of young people walking on a narrow pathway. It is important NSG students understand their moral responsibility and wear a mask where they cannot socially distance.

The new guidance also stipulated that 'out-of-school' activities may continue to operate if their primary purpose is to enable parents to work, to seek work or to undertake training or education. Although after school activity is part of our academic support, wellbeing and wider educational programme, we are fully aware that many of our families do rely on this provision to support them working or to fit in with transport arrangements. As part of our ongoing commitment to our students and their families, we have continued to provide out-of-school activities to support with childcare needs.



In the next few weeks, we have a number of virtual events at school, including a virtual parents' evening for Year 11 on Thursday 26th November; we will be sharing more details about this with you shortly.

Yours sincerely,



Cristina Taboada-Naya | Headteacher
Northampton School for Girls

