

6 January 2022

Dear parent/carer

I am writing to you as the new term has started.

### **Covid**

We are sadly still in the grip of Covid with double the number of cases among students at the moment compared to in December which broadly reflects the situation locally and nationally.

Students were wearing face coverings in lessons before the Christmas break and clearly this now continues. Students respond well to this showing a mature understanding of the current circumstances. Please continue to ensure that your daughter/ son continues to come to school each day with a mask.

Please continue to ensure that students test twice per week, we suggest Sundays and Wednesdays. We continue to issue packs of kits to students.

Young people aged 12 and over can get vaccinated and I urge you to take this opportunity. Vaccinations can be booked via the NHS website at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

We currently continue to have a higher than usual level of staff absence. This has been especially challenging this week but we have managed to cover all lessons. We will of course continue to do everything possible to keep students in school.

We have regrettably returned assemblies to on-line events for the coming weeks and will retain subject consultation events for parents/carers on an online basis this term.

### **Subject consultations for Y9 and Y11**

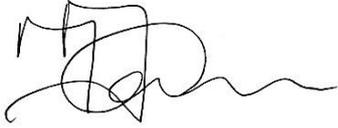
Details for appointments for the Year 11 subject consultation event will be sent out shortly and likewise for the Year 9 subject consultation event in early February. Before then we have to decide how best we can run the options process for Year 9 students. We have a Year 9 Options Evening in the calendar for 3 February and will inform you shortly of how that will proceed or whether it will become a virtual event.

We are very keen to retain opportunities to meet with parents/carers in person where this can be done in a way that is appropriate. This is one of the things that we have missed over the past two years since the pandemic. Consequently we will proceed with the Year 11 mock results evening on 13 January. We have organised the evening in a way that makes distancing possible and I hope that parents/carers will feel able to come in although I fully understand where you decide not to do so. A letter will be sent out later today with an invitation to this event and details of how we are organising it so that I hope you can be reassured.

## **Annual survey**

We will embark on our Annual Survey of parents/carers, students and staff shortly. This will be sent out to all parents/carers. I hope you will be able to spend a few minutes completing this and returning it because your feedback on our school is important and helps inform future changes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Carroll', with a stylized, cursive flourish extending to the right.

Tim Carroll