

12th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Covid Update and In-School Measures

I'm pleased to say that we have continued to see Covid case rates reduce this week (to less than 2% of the student body). We will be liaising further with the Public Health Team early next week, but will be retaining our current measures until then.

All being well, we will be able to relax some measures (such as restricting larger gatherings, including Assemblies and events on site) soon, which will allow us to continue with some of our planned events in the lead up to Christmas, such as the Carol Service and Christmas Concerts. We are planning with our fingers crossed and you will have seen details of how to purchase tickets.

In the meantime, we remain vigilant and ask students to do the same. Please keep lateral flow testing twice a week and, as always, please ensure that any positive LFD test results and follow up PCR results (positive or negative) are reported to the school immediately (via attendance@gordanoschool.org.uk).

Remote Learning with Covid

Our Virtual School website (https://mrdbeesley.wixsite.com/gordanoschool, link available from the front page of the school website) continues to be updated with advice and resources for those self-isolating but able to work. There is information for students specific to their year-groups to explain how they should use their time and how work will be provided.

The virtual site includes a short questionnaire inviting feedback from students who have been remote learning. We'd be grateful for as many responses as possible to help us evaluate and improve the provision we've set up.

Meet the Tutor Evening - Thursday 18th November

This year we have introduced an opportunity for students and parents to meet their tutor towards the start of the academic year. This is a really valuable opportunity to review the start they have made to the year.

For all year-groups other than Year 11, this will take place remotely via our 'SchoolCloud' Parents' Evening software. Meetings for Year 11 students and parents will be slightly different (as part of their 'Futures' programme) and will take place on site.

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For this and other Progress Evenings through the year, school will finish slightly early on Thursday, at 3pm, to give students and staff the chance to get home and set up for the 4pm start.

Please look out for further information coming to you today on this. The booking system for appointments will go live at 7pm this evening.

Children In Need - Friday 19th November

Next Friday marks the annual 'Children In Need' event. As a school we are holding a non-uniform day to help raise money for this wonderful charity. We would ask that all students make a contribution, to be collected in Tutor time. We would suggest at least £1 and would really like to make this year a record in terms of money raised.

Many children have suffered significantly over the past 18 months, including some in our own community. Anything we can do to help and support this charity will go towards helping local organisations who support children when applying for funding through the 'Children In Need' charity.

Many thanks for your support with this.

With best wishes

Tom Inman Headteacher