



16 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

This will be my penultimate communication of the year so I will start with a thank-you.

When I reflect back over the year the various changes are considerable: controlled return to school in September followed by the disruption in December, the lockdown in the new year and subsequent return in March with wholesale LFD testing and yet more new routines. Our students and staff have been navigating their path on ever-shifting ground, they have done phenomenally well and I am hugely proud of all of them however they could not have managed without the supportive community that envelops the College to lift their morale when it became difficult, at times literally a helping hand.

There are a few updates in this letter which highlight some changes and events to come.

The return of Headlines: <https://www.heathfieldcc.co.uk/parents/letters&information>

I am pleased to share with you the first of a termly newsletter, a reworked Headlines which focuses on aspects feedback told us was important. This completes the picture of communication from the College including:

- Fortnightly letters from myself highlighting information, achievements or events.
- Frequent and regular streamed updates on student activities and achievements via Facebook (www.facebook.com/Heathfield-Community-College) and Twitter (@Heathfield_CC).
- A termly Headlines newsletter delving deeper into the learning that has been taking place in each term in subjects and wider curriculum opportunities as well as an update from year groups. Different subjects will feature each term.

Honours Awards and House Cup Celebrations

Next week we will issue certificates and celebrate the achievements of all our Honours Awards students. The information will come to parents and students via post and we will celebrate the achievements via our Latest News and Facebook or Twitter.

The House Cup is still being calculated based on the activities of students throughout the end of term. It is most likely that a communication will be sent to the all students to inform them of the outcomes and to the students in the winning house on Thursday afternoon informing them of the arrangements for the next day. Please make sure you are watching out for this as it may require a change of kit for Friday 23 July.



Distinguished School



Step Four of the Roadmap: 19 July

We are aware that the government has announced Monday 19 July as the date when the country will move to a position of “personal responsibility” in relation to the control measures for Covid-19. However, we still have 5 school days left of term including Enrichment Week.

Control Measures: We do not view it sensible to introduce big changes at this stage of the term for such a short time and therefore all current measures will remain in place (ventilation, hand washing, sanitising, one-way systems and enhanced cleaning). Students should expect to continue exactly as they have been until 23 July. We remind students that mask wearing is an option for reassurance if they wish.

For those coming into school during the holiday for issues relating to exams or for summer schools, separate guidance will be issued relating to each activity. We will update next week on the arrangements for September but this is likely to involve a staggered start as we did in March. We have been required to operate two Lateral Flow Tests, 3 to 5 days apart, after the holidays for all students and staff.

Track and Trace: Please see attached an information sheet from the DfE and NHS Track and Trace which informs us that as of Monday 19 July they will assume responsibility for tracking the contacts of any positive case. I can offer little comment on this at this stage as the guidance only reached us on Thursday evening and clearly has a range of potential impact that will need to be considered.

For students who are already self-isolating as identified close contacts the current advice is that they should continue to isolate for the full 10 days as outlined in the letter sent from College. If this changes on Monday we will update you however no guidance on this has yet been received, despite many calls to the DfE helpline.

Local Rates of Infection

We are aware of how much local schools have been affected in the last few weeks and we remain very aware that this is changing daily, as the local rates continue to rise. We will, of course, act swiftly and keep you informed as we need to. We are currently planning for the eventuality of any impact on Enrichment Week of staff and students having to self-isolate or becoming unwell. Notices of change next week may come at short notice and so we would ask you to remain vigilant to notices from the College as we respond to changes as they happen.

Next week I will write to you at the end of the school year with details of provisional plans for September. Meanwhile I wish you all the best for a happy and peaceful weekend.

Yours sincerely



MS C BARLOW
Headteacher