



Winterton Community Academy

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Headteacher – Mr K Rowlands

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22nd October 2021

Dear parents and carers,

It has been an absolute privilege to see the very best of our students this half-term, throughout many challenges and disruptions they have risen to the challenge and put their best foot forward.

I am certain that we are all very much looking forward to a well-earned break over the next week. However looking beyond that, I also wanted to advise you of what our anticipated position will be in terms of our response to COVID-19.

At present, the percentage of our student population who are confirmed as absent with COVID-19 is just 2% compared to 18% when it was at its peak. With this in mind and on the assumption that we do not experience a further increase, we anticipate that when we return after half-term, lessons will return to normal and we will no longer need our students to remain within their class bubbles. To allow this to happen, it is imperative that we continue to follow guidance and remain vigilant to the risks.

We have been asked by Public Health England to request that all students take two lateral flow tests prior to their return after half term. Please can you conduct these at home, on Friday 29th October and prior to their return to school on Monday 1st November. Naturally, if a positive result is returned, you should proceed to isolate and request a PCR test through the NHS.

Face-masks remain at the discretion of the individual however we would still encourage students to at least wear a face-mask when using school buses or public transport.

The school canteen continues to operate as normal and a full range of hot and cold food is available. Each year group has an allocated time to access the canteen and we ask that students remain seated within their own year group.

We will continue to keep students within their specific zones during breaks and lunch and ask that they continue to respect the one-way system that we have in place.

Despite the many challenges that this term has presented, we have done our utmost to ensure that they are able to enjoy a wide range of experiences in school. It is fantastic to see so many fixtures and sporting events taking place, well done to all of those students have represented across a variety of sports.

I am delighted to see year 11 students start to engage in additional classes and if you are the parent of a Year 11 student, we appreciate your support in encouraging them to access further studies and prepare themselves for the examinations next year. The earlier that they start to revise and revisit the work that they have done at home and in addition, access the resources that are available to them such as GCSE POD, the better. We are adamant that next summer will see a return to examinations and it is important that our students prepare themselves.

Finally, we have run an art competition during the past 4 weeks and today we were able to announce the winning entries and share a range of prizes with some of our students.

Congratulations to Emma Hornsby (Year 10) and Jack Sands (Year 7) who have both received a first prize for their entry.

Also, well-done to Emma Walker (Year 9), Evelyn Bryant (Year 10) and Maisy Deakin (Year 7) who all received a runners-up prize and special commendation. All prize-winning entries will be shared on our school Twitter account.

Thank you as ever for your incredible support and understanding, I hope you all have a lovely break and we look forward to a positive half-term ahead when we return.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mr Rowlands', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr Rowlands