



5 November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It is wonderful following half-term to see the College once again full of happy young people who continue to flourish in their lessons, WymLife activities and House communities. What is clear, however, is that the national picture regarding Covid19 continues to develop. As we face another national lockdown we have continued to review our Covid-Safe measures at the College. Our approach has always been to put the safety of all our community at the heart of all that we do which has thus far included moving to Year group based Houses, Year group based learning zones, one way systems, enhanced cleaning regimes and hand washing.

Due to the increasing cases nationally amongst secondary school aged citizens, following advice from the Sapientia Education Trust and updated advice from the Department of Education, on Tuesday at our weekly review meeting, the decision was made to bring in further Covid-Safe measures from **Friday 6 November**, namely that students will be required to wear a plain coloured face covering when indoors in any part of the College with the exception of upstairs areas of the boarding houses and when they are eating or drinking. Please see the following animation which demonstrates how face coverings and ventilation can significantly reduce the spread of Covid19 when indoors <https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-10-28/a-room-a-bar-and-a-class-how-the-coronavirus-is-spread-through-the-air.html>.

We are introducing this measure as we believe it is the right time to graduate our response to help stop the spread of this virus. Please ensure that your child/ren come to College with a suitable plain face covering. We will, of course, have a limited supply if students misplace theirs.

If your child is exempt from wearing a face covering on medical grounds, please make sure that their Head of House is aware who will issue them with an exemption pass.

Boarding Update

Following discussion between the Boarding Schools Association and the Department of Education (DfE) the DfE has issued the following statement regarding travel for boarders:

“Residential providers should support students to reduce travel between home and educational accommodation unless absolutely necessary. Where students normally travel between their boarding school and home during term time for the purpose of education, this is allowed.”

To this end, the College will keep open all boarding houses over Exeat and if you wish for your child/ren to remain in the College during Exeat this should be booked in the normal way. Exeat fees will be based on the number of students requiring this facility and we will update you as soon as possible. At present we are not anticipating keeping the College open for boarding students over the Christmas holiday.

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Our staff remain dedicated to doing everything possible to ensure that our students continue to enjoy a world class education and I thank you for your support regarding our safety measures.

Floreat Sapientia

Dan Browning
Headteacher