



# HEANOR GATE SCIENCE COLLEGE

“Develop all learners to achieve their full potential”  
“Create a culture of aspiration”

Principal: **Mr S Huntington**



November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to the second half of our autumn term, one which will no doubt throw up many new challenges. However, I am confident that as a school community we will once again unite and come through these unprecedented times safe and together.

Given the government's announcement on Saturday regarding the national lockdown, which will commence on Thursday 5 November, we will more than ever need to follow rules and guidance, both in school and out in the community. Unfortunately, as has previously been the case, any guidance to schools will likely be with us very late on in the day. As a result, there will likely be further communication from me later in the week. In the interim I have a few things to communicate with you:

Firstly, over the half term break a **member of staff within the school has tested positive for Covid-19**. The teacher affected received their test result on Wednesday 28 October. We are pleased to report that the teacher is feeling ok and is recovering at home. As the case came during half term, the member of staff involved has not been in close contact with any students and, therefore, there is no need for concern or for any students to self-isolate in relation to this result. The guidance on close contacts can be found below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

Secondly, as communicated via text message, with the school being placed in the High Covid alert level, there is an expectation for staff and students to wear **face coverings/masks** where social distancing is difficult to maintain. At present our position is:

Students should wear face coverings at all times when not seated in indoor communal areas. The best examples of these are: corridors during lesson changeovers, the corridors and dining spaces during break and lunch when not seated at a table (queuing or standing). We would appreciate it if you ensure that your child now has a face covering in their possession at all times. For any students who forget their face covering we have a limited supply of single use face masks that will be available at £1 from reception.

Full guidance for schools on the wearing of face coverings can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>

Lastly, with regards to student **absence due to self-isolation**, we welcome your regular and personal communication regarding any student absence. As more and more people are being informed both formally, through the national track and trace app, or more informally through direct communication with positive contacts, it is essential that you continue to inform the school of any student absence. The ideal platform for this will be through direct conversation with your child's Achievement Leader or Assistant Achievement Leader.

As always we are grateful for your support and once again ask that you appreciate the fluid nature of any action we have to take over the coming days/weeks.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Huntington  
Executive Principal

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