

2 March 2021

Dear Parents

## Year 8

December seems like such a long time ago now but this would have been when I last saw the year group. Yet, in one week we will all be returning to school. Uniform will need to be found and washed, shoes cleaned and shined with school bags located from under the stairs and earlier alarms set in preparation for 8<sup>th</sup> March. It will be good to get back into a good routine and out of the house.

I just wanted to communicate a few things about the year group. The Year 8's have embraced online learning and I have been really impressed by their efforts across all of their subjects. I am very proud of the resilience they have shown along with some outstanding pieces of work.

Please could I ask that you check that school uniforms still fit, books have been located and organised and planners ready to hand. This will aid in having a smooth start when we return on 8<sup>th</sup> March. With us going back to face to face learning I would like all focus to be on our learning rather than distractions. Your child will spend time with their tutor on the 8<sup>th</sup> March to catch up and go over any questions they may have.

As a school we are very aware that the lockdown periods have been a challenge for you as parents and for your children, as their 'normal' life has been turned upside down. As we did in September, we will be looking to support all of our students when they return, in whatever ways we can and in whatever ways they need.

Usually I am speaking with parents daily and receiving emails about any home life changes and issues that students may have. I have continued to have these conversations and emails but I am aware that things may have happened that as a school, would be useful for us to know. I would be really grateful if you can let me know if things have happened during this lockdown that may impact on your child and how they are likely to be when they return to school. This will be useful in planning who we need to prioritise initially. ALL of your children are equally important to me. There will be those who have breezed through this whole situation and display a resilience that we didn't expect and there will be others who have struggled for a whole host of reasons.

Please be assured that any information that you share with me will be entirely confidential.

I look forward to seeing the year group again and I just want to thank you as always for your support.

Kind regards,

Mr Naisbitt  
Head of Year 8