



Herne Bay High School

Specialist Sports College

Bullockstone Road, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7NS

☎ 01227 361221 ✉ principal@hernebayhigh.org



25th February 2022

Dear Parent Carers,

Welcome to my first communication of term four. I trust you had a pleasant and relaxing half term break, hopefully escaping any damage from the repeated storms that hit this area. Please take time to read this whole letter as there is some particularly important information contained within.

Uniform

Coats

From Monday 28th February, outdoor coats will no longer be allowed to be worn in lessons. With the changes to the Covid regulations, windows are open but only slightly and we continue to run the heating and consequently, school is warm enough. Blazers are expected to be worn all day and a school jumper if it is on the cold side.

Summer uniform

The Department of Education (DfE) is very clear in their communication to schools in ensuring uniform is as accessible and affordable as possible for parents and carers. With this in mind and reflecting on a few operational changes that we have introduced post Covid, we have made the decision to slightly alter our summer uniform. The white polo shirts from Barnums will no longer be part of the summer uniform. We will be moving to a shirt and tie but no blazer summer uniform which can include short sleeve white shirts if so desired (or by rolling up your sleeves). I shall formally write to all parents/carers and inform students at school at the point in the year when we move to this uniform.

Behaviour system and points

The new behaviour system introduced at the start of the year is having an impact and has helped reduce the instances of non-compliance both in and out of class. We have seen significant reductions in lateness and final choices in class which I am sure you will agree is a very positive step.

We aim to ensure we both praise and sanction and this is reflected in the points being allocated. Since Christmas, 1200 students received less than 5 points (the cumulative threshold for a sanction) and over 350 students have zero negative points. 21,461 positive points have been given out for dedication, kindness and respect demonstrating excellent engagement in education. As you can see, most students do not accrue many points and they are well balanced with praise. As has always been the case you can monitor all points given along with many other aspects of your child's education through the MyEd App. I do understand that changes such as the behaviour policy can create uncertainty with parents/carers; my message is if you are unsure about any aspect of school life, then please contact your child's year team in the first instance.

Covid Update

Testing

Whilst the government has removed the requirement for school age children to test twice a week, we suggest that a sensible approach would be to undertake a test once per week just to keep on top of any asymptomatic infection. We still hold a considerable number of LFD test kits, and these are available for students to collect from either the Upper, Lower or 6th form offices.



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If my child has symptoms:

If a student has symptoms they should take a PCR test, stay at home, and follow government guidance if positive.

What are the new isolation rules?

The government have now removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, the guidance is that students who have tested positive will continue to be advised to stay at home for five full days and then receive two negative test results on consecutive days before returning to their school or after day 10 of isolation, whichever is earliest.

Therefore, at Herne Bay High School we will be adhering to the guidance that adults and children who test positive should continue to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least five full days. Please note that at this time the school will continue to be able to take the decision to refuse a student admission to school site if in our 'reasonable' judgement it is necessary to protect others from possible infection with Covid-19.

It looks like being a sunny weekend giving us the opportunity to be out and about enjoying all our community has to offer. Have a good week and I shall be in contact again shortly.

With kind regards,

Mr Jon Boyes
Principal