



Herne Bay High School

Specialist Sports College

Bullockstone Road, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7NS
☎ 01227 361221 ✉ principal@hernebayhigh.org



28th March 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

We are at the end of the penultimate week of the Spring term; time does seem to be passing so quickly this year.

Your children, overall, have settled back into school life remarkable well. Yes, there have been one or two hiccups with a few students, however we have a fabulous and dedicated team on hand to support when these occur. To enable this smooth return to continue, I ask that you keep up the communication with the school should your circumstances change, or should you feel there is information that will help us.

We ended this week with a short assembly that reminded every student about a few key issues regarding everyday conduct, uniform, and preparedness for learning. These will be re-iterated again next week in mentor time and will then be a direct focus across the school as students return after the Easter break.

As such, can I please add to your Easter “to do” list, that you reaffirm the messages by going over the following information with your sons and daughters. Thank you:

Uniform

After Easter, we will be in summer uniform; that is polo shirts, black trousers/skirts and, if it is chilly, a black jumper or a dark school coat. Hoodies of any kind are not part of the uniform. Please also ensure that black shoes are worn. Full details of our uniform are on the school website.

Lanyards:

Part of our school uniform is now a coloured lanyard to help identify years groups and this is a key part of our COVID safe measures and helps ensure we maintain year bubbles. Every child should have one, if not they need to see their year team to collect one next week.

Equipment for learning:

It is now time for a check and restock if needed.

Cashless payment cards:

Anyone accessing the restaurant to obtain food will need their cashless payment/ID card, please locate, and ensure money is on the account. Anyone requiring a new card needs to contact the year team, this side of Easter, who will arrange a new one to be produced.



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Travelling to and from School:

Can I ask that you reiterate to your son/daughter, the need to be thoughtful at all times and show respect to the public and our residents in particular. Specifically, think about litter, noise and the language that is used whilst walking to and from school.

COVID update:

The uptake from our students with home LFD testing has been astonishing and continues to add to the safety measures we have in place. I thank you for playing your part in this and please remember to test on Wednesday and Sunday each week. We will text to remind you. As you may already be aware, we have made a few tweaks to our organisational structure, along with the extra COVID measures that came into place after the return from lockdown to minimise impact of positive tests. This has allowed us to pinpoint very accurately close contacts and isolate far fewer student when a positive test is recorded, which I am sure you will agree is welcome.

Over the weekend, the Government has released further information that I will share with you; the entire update can be found at [Schools coronavirus \(COVID-19\) operational guidance - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/schools-coronavirus-covid-19-operational-guidance) (www.gov.uk)

Testing and reporting over Easter

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme on the return to school and college, it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term. Staff and students should:

- *continue to test twice a week at home (all those who can)*
- *report positive, negative or void results using the [report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result portal](#)*
- *test before returning to school or college for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, the first day back to find and isolate any positive cases*

We need to ask schools and further education providers to continue with contact tracing over the Easter holidays.

The last statement does mean that we ask you to continue to report to the school using the link that we text out twice a week on a Sunday and a Wednesday.



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Face coverings

The following statement was contained in the update to the official government operational guidance to schools:

On the use of face coverings in lessons in secondary schools and colleges, the updated guidance says that the government is *“taking this additional precautionary measure for a limited time during this period of high coronavirus (COVID-19) prevalence in the community. **These measures will continue to be in place after Easter.** As with all measures, we will keep it under review and update guidance at that point.”*

The 29th of March does see the end to a few more of the national COVID restrictions, the “stay at home” edict is removed, outdoors the “rule of 6” returns. Additionally, outdoor sports clubs and activities start up, for those that play golf, swim or are involved in grass roots sports which is so welcome. This is all great news and I hope should lift the spirits. Added to that we have some glorious weather forecast between Monday and Wednesday with sun and temperatures up into the low twenties, what a positive way to end the week. With this lifting of restriction please do still stay safe and look after yourselves and your families, until next week goodbye.

With kind regards

Mr Boyes
Principal