



Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College

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Headteacher: Mrs S Chinnappa BSc M.Ed. NPQH

23rd October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

General Update – 23rd October 2020

I am happy to report that we have had 16 days free of positive tests. I believe that our increased risk management strategy and the number of students adhering to these has helped to limit the spread of Covid-19 within the school environment. I would like to say a big thank you to all of you for supporting us through what has been a difficult first half term. The staff team have had to deal with many changes and adaptations in delivering teaching and learning throughout the school and my thanks go to them for embracing new ways of working. I hope that the majority of our students have experienced as little disruption as possible over the past seven weeks.

A lot of learning has taken place inside the classroom, but also at home too, with high levels of engagement with our online learning platform -SAM Learning. It is wonderful to see our year 11's embracing this approach and regular engagement with it will surely enhance their opportunities in next year's examination and assessment series.

As we move through the next half term towards Christmas, we will be introducing a new electronic sign-in system at the front of school for staff and visitors. This is intended to enhance our safeguarding procedures in school. We are striving as an organisation to become more effective and are implementing technological strategies and interventions to enable us to be so. Please bear with us as we try to get to grips with new technologies and ways of working.

To continue in our endeavour to manage Covid safely within our environment, we are having the school cleaned again over the half term using the electrostatic spray technique. As I explained in a previous letter, we will be undertaking regular enhanced cleaning regimes such as this to try and provide an even higher layer of safety within school. We have also invested in some automatic hand sanitisers that students can use on arrival at school. We are working tirelessly to review our risk assessment and ensure that we are doing all that we can do to prevent the spread of Covid-19. A recent call from the Health and Safety Executive reinforced that our Covid safe procedures are well executed and appropriate.

Hampshire County Council have asked all Headteachers to include the following message in all correspondence to parents at this time:

*Coronavirus infections are continuing to rise, and Hampshire is on 'Medium' COVID alert level. We need **your help** to stop the spread of the virus, so please continue following national public health guidance this half term. Remember 'hands, face, space' and the Rule of 6: which means no large gatherings indoors or outdoors. Let's all work together to Keep Hampshire Safe.*

In the coming weeks, we will be arranging practice walks for Duke of Edinburgh Award students as well as looking at restarting some after school clubs. We will notify you when we have firmed up a decision on these later on in the term.

Finally, I wish you all a restful half term break, and we all look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Monday 2nd November.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shani Chinnappa', written in a cursive style.

Mrs S Chinnappa
Headteacher
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