

26 March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

End of Spring Term 2021

I am writing to you all at the end of a term which has seen significant and continued turbulence, both in terms of disruptions to learning and large numbers of students requiring to isolate. I fully appreciate that this has been a source of considerable frustration for a number of families; please rest assured, the situation has been equally as frustrating for everyone amongst the staff, and we have done our level best to ensure continuity throughout this period. We simply have to abide in full with all the guidance and legislation coming down to us from government agencies, including Public Health England. Many parents have asked that I reconsider decisions to ask students and bubbles to self-isolate; I would like to reiterate that this is not in my gift, and I am bound - as it should be - by national legislation and guidance, even when this is inconvenient and frustrating.

Even now, with a fortnight's Easter break upon us, there is no guarantee that the promised easing of restrictions will happen as planned; we must of course wait for the PM's announcements over the coming days.

I feel it incumbent upon me to remind all parents, carers and students that, until such time as announcements say otherwise, the country is still in lockdown. I know the temptation will be great, especially now more clement weather is here, to risk breaking lockdowns and isolations.

But I would plead with everyone to do their bit to maintain social order and prevent, wherever possible, any further unnecessary spread of the virus.

Cases in Barnsley are rising more quickly than anywhere else in the county at the current time, and this may well mean tighter restrictions remain in place in our little part of the world for longer.

For this reason, it is more important than ever that, on our return on 12th April, students continue to wear face coverings and maintain social distancing as much as possible. Only then can we begin to hope of some more normality as the summer draws near.

With my gratitude for everything that you are doing to support everyone's safety and wellbeing, I wish you all a pleasant and relaxing Easter break.

Best wishes



Mr J Mitchell
Principal