



# PRESDALES SCHOOL

*Achievement for all*

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Dear Parent/carer

Thank you for all of the supportive emails we have received from parents this week, they have all been appreciated. I am hoping this weekend is a little quieter than the last.

We have tried hard since the beginning of lockdown to ensure that all of our communications with parents have been concise, clear and timely. Whilst we got there in the end, I would like to apologise for any confusion around who had to self-isolate when we closed our Sixth Form bubble. I understand the difficulties that self-isolation brings and would like to thank all of our Sixth Form students for the focus they have shown so far in their remote lessons.

## **COVID:**

### ***Deep clean***

The entire school had a professional clean Wednesday after school. I am grateful to Mr Jackson of Cannon Cleaning, who is also a Year 8 parent, who did this for us at short notice.

### ***Out of hours COVID email address***

We have set up an out-of-hours email address for parents to inform the school that their child has been sent for a test, or more importantly they have tested positive. Knowing this on an evening or at the weekend will enable us to put into place all necessary safety measures for the next school day. Please use the normal school admin address for general enquiries and telephone the school if it is in school hours.

[covid@presdales.herts.sch.uk](mailto:covid@presdales.herts.sch.uk)

### ***School contacting parents out of hours***

Please be advised that we may need to contact you in the evening or at the weekend to inform you that your child is a close contact of someone who has tested positive. The call will come up on your phone as NO CALLER ID, as we are currently using personal mobiles to make the calls. I rarely answer calls with no caller ID myself, but please be aware that it may be the school. If there are a large number of students who need to self-isolate, you will be informed by email rather than an individual call.

### ***Face masks***

It is now compulsory for students to wear face coverings in communal areas inside the school building. However, we are aware that there will be some students who are exempt from wearing a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, a disability, or if it causes severe distress. If this is the case for your son/daughter, please contact their Head of Year giving the reason for the exemption and then they may be issued with an exemption lanyard to wear in school if they choose to do so. Over the past few days, a number of students have had to be given a new mask as they have forgotten to bring one. Please provide your child with a spare that can go in their school bag.

### **Remote Learning Procedure**

We have published a remote learning procedure on our [website](#). This gives information on how lessons will be delivered for a number of different scenarios e.g. a student is self-isolating, a teacher is self-isolating. Please inform us immediately if your child has been asked to self-isolate but does not have a suitable device to access school work at home.

### **Broadband in school**

During lockdown, it became increasingly apparent that our broadband speed in school was not good enough to cope with multiple devices running live lessons. We are increasing our bandwidth from 200mb to 1gb to cope with the increased demand. Whilst we started this process a number of months ago, it has not yet been installed. We have been assured that this will be completed by the end of October at the latest.

### **Year 11 and Year 13 Tracking Point A**

This will be coming out to parents via Edulink in the week before half term. Edulink can now inform us if a document has not been read. To make sure that every family is receiving the tracking report, we will do a check a few days after it has been sent to see that it has been read and contact you if not. If you know that you are unable to log into Edulink, please email [helpdesk@presdales.herts.sch.uk](mailto:helpdesk@presdales.herts.sch.uk)

### **Whiteboard pens**

At the beginning of this term, we provided all students with a teaching and learning toolkit, which included a whiteboard and a pen. Some of the pens are now running out and whilst we have spares to give out we are asking that students purchase white board pens to use in school as they would do with other stationery.

### **Inset day**

A reminder that our annual Secondary Transfer Evening would have taken place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Normally, we would have finished early on that day, however it will now be a **normal school day**.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October** is an inset day – **the school is closed to all students**.

I wish you all a restful weekend.

Kind regards  
Matt Warren  
Headteacher