



**Principal:** Dr Katharine Vincent

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear parent/carer,

Thank you for all your support for students and for the school this term. I am extremely proud of the way in which students, staff and the whole school community has worked together during this challenging time.

Please note:

- **The school will close for the Christmas holidays on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 3.50pm**
- **Students in all year groups will return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 8.40am**

### January exams

Most Sixth Form students and some students in Year 10 and Year 11 will be sitting exams in January. These exams will contribute towards students' final grades in their technical and vocational qualifications, so it is important for them to take time over the holidays to revise. Please refer to the letter about January exams which has been sent out by Ms Christofides for further guidance about this.

### House System

Congratulations to our new Year 13 House Captain and Year 11 House Captains who were recently appointed to their new posts. Year 10 and Year 12 house ambassadors will also be announced this week, after a rigorous and competitive interview process.

### Parents Evening

A successful parents evening was held via telephone for Year 11 students on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Parents Evening will take place for students in Year 13 on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Owing to Covid restrictions, this Parents Evening will also be held remotely. All parents will receive a report about their child's progress through the post. For students in Year 13, parents will only receive a phone call if there are concerns about a student's effort or achievement.



### Medical and dental appointments

Parents and carers are reminded that, if students have a medical or dental appointment during school hours, the appointment evidence must be sent in advance to their Head of House. This can be done by email at the present time. Once the email has been received, the Head of House will authorise the appointment.

### Winter clothing

It is necessary for us to keep doors and windows within the school building open, to keep air flowing in order to help prevent the spread of the virus. As a result, it is likely that the school building will be colder than usual this winter. We are therefore relaxing our usual school uniform and dress code rules as follows:

- All students may wear coats inside the building, including inside corridors and classrooms.
- If students in Year 10 and Year 11 wear a jumper, it must be a grey school jumper or cardigan.
- If Year 10 and Year 11 students are wearing coats, they must wear them over their blazers.
- If Sixth Form students are wearing coats, they must wear them over their shirts/sweaters/dresses.
- Students must not wear hoodies, hats or caps within school building.
- Students must not have the hoods of their coats up at any time within the school building.

### Covid 19

If your child has Covid symptoms and you have sent for a test or are waiting for test results, please do not send your child into school until they have received a negative test result. If they have had a continuous cough, high temperature or loss of taste and/or smell, they must not return to school until they have received a negative test result even if they are feeling better.

Please go on to our website for up to date advice and guidance from the Department for Education, Public Health England and the school <http://mulberryutc.org/coronavirus-covid-19-information/>

### Safety measures

The school is following all government guidance and has a range of safety measures in place to ensure that the risk of infection is minimised. This includes:

- Face-masks must be worn by all students and staff in all circulation spaces of the school at all times.
- Students and staff must remain 2 metres apart from each other where possible and, where this is not possible, they must remain at least 1 metre apart at all times.



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- There is hand sanitiser available all over the school.
- Students and staff are required to regularly wash and sanitise their hands.
- The school is teaching all subjects and following the normal curriculum.
- Students are taught with their own zones with separate classrooms, desk, chairs and toilets.

Any students who are exempt from wearing a mask for medical or other reasons should speak to a member of staff so that this can be properly recorded.

Many thanks for your continued support during this time.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K Vincent  
**Principal**