



Principal: Dr Katharine Vincent

Friday 15th October 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for all your ongoing support for the school, which is very much appreciated.

Parents' Evening

Thank you for attending our Year 10 and Year 12 in-person parents' evening on Thursday 14th October. It was lovely to meet so many parents and to be able to share with you the excellent progress that students are making at the school. If you were not able to attend, please email info@mulberryutc.org so that we can arrange for you to have a call with a member of staff.

Open Evening – Thursday 21st October 4.30-6.30pm

Our Year 10 and Year 12 Open Evening will take place on Thursday 21st October. Please come along – this is a fantastic opportunity to see the school in action and to take part in practical activities and workshops. Students will finish lessons at 3pm (after Period 6) in order to give staff and students time to prepare for Open Evening. Some students have been invited to support with the event; letters will be given to students about this so that you know whether or not they should attend.

October half term break

Arrangements for the October half term break are as follows:

- **Friday 22nd October - school closed** to students for staff training day
- **Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October – half term break;** catch-up and revision sessions will be running during this time for students in Year 11 and Year 13. A timetable will be sent to you about this and students will be told which sessions they need to attend.
- **Monday 1st – Friday 5th November – remote learning week;** work will be sent online for students to complete during this time and teachers will check this when school returns.
- **Monday 8th November – return to school;** all students must arrive at 8.40am.

Laptops

The school has laptops available for students to loan in order to support their studies at home. Devices can be loaned for up to 12 months. Any students who would like to borrow a laptop from the school should speak to their form tutor in the first instances. They will then arrange for the student to be allocated a laptop by the IT team.

Part of the

Mulberry
Schools Trust





Paying for food and drink at break and lunchtime

The school operates a cashless system, with students paying for lunch by swiping their ID cards at the till. This includes those students who are eligible for free school meals. Parents/carers can add money to students' accounts using the online Parentpay system. A username and password has been sent to new families in a separate letter. Students are required to wear their ID cards at all times and must present them at the till in order to be served with their lunch.

Uniform and dress code

All students must adhere to the school's uniform and dress code. All students must wear their lanyard and ID card at all times when they are inside the school building.

Students in Year 10 and Year 11 must wear school uniform and are not permitted to wear sweatshirts, hoodies or coats within the school building.

Sixth Form students are required to wear professional dress, with no jeans, no trainers, no hoodies, no hats or caps, no coats within the school building and no headphones or phones to be used within the school building at any time.

A number of Sixth Form students have come to school this week wearing trainers. If this happens, students will be offered plimsolls or, if they live close to the school, the opportunity to go home and change their shoes. Students will not be permitted to come into school wearing trainers. If there is a medical or other issue affecting footwear, parents should contact the school about this.

COVID-19 Control Measures

Dealing with possible or confirmed cases of COVID 19

Students and staff should not come into school if they have symptoms of COVID 19 or if they have had a positive test result. Anyone who has symptoms is advised to take a PCR test and to self-isolate until they have the results. If the result is negative, they can return to school when they feel well enough. If the result is positive, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days, following the government guidelines.

If anyone develops COVID-19 symptoms while in school, they will be sent home immediately, recommended to take a PCR test and to self-isolate until they receive the results. Students do not need to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or if they are a close contact of someone with COVID-19. Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all students to take a PCR test if advised to do so.



Contact tracing

Schools are no longer required to carry out contact tracing. In the event of a confirmed case at school, NHS Track and Trace will work with the staff member, student and/or parent/carer to identify close contacts.

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a positive COVID case, or if they live in a household with a COVID case, providing one of the following:

- They are under 18
- They are over 18 and fully vaccinated
- They are in an approved COVID 19 trial
- They are not able to vaccinate for medical reasons

If not required to self-isolate, an individual who is a close contact of a confirmed case will be advised to take a PCR test, but should continue to attend school in the meantime. If the result is negative, they should continue to attend school; if the result is positive, they should immediately self-isolate and notify the school.

Thank you for all your ongoing support for the school, which is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K Vincent
Principal