

SCHOOL NEWS 5 NOVEMBER 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As we returned from the half term break we were all greeted by the Prime Minister's announcement, last Saturday, of the second lockdown that commenced today. The Department for Education Guidance for schools, was only issued late afternoon yesterday. It is important that we try and clarify what it means for our school, students, staff, parents and carers.

The new guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-and-childcare-settings-new-national-restrictions-from-5-november-2020>

Our whole school Risk Assessment will be updated shortly and added to our website before Monday 9 November.

With all these changes that we are now having to implement, our paramount concern is for the safety of our children and staff at Worthing High School and with your help and support, I am certain that we will all get through this. We must be guided by Government, Public Health England and DfE and for all of us to understand the implications of the recommendations.

Pan Panayiotou
HEADTEACHER

FACE COVERINGS

From Monday 9 November, **face coverings must be worn in all communal/transitional areas of the school whenever staff and students are not in lessons. When walking around outside the school buildings, staff and students are permitted to remove their face coverings, but they must ensure as soon as they enter the school building that face coverings are replaced.**

This is not a school request, but one from central government and the expectation is that from Monday, as a school, we are fully compliant.

For students who are exempt from wearing a face covering please can you ensure that they have with them their exemption card/lanyard/badge which is clearly visible from Monday. For details on how to obtain or print an exemption card please [visit this website](#)

All face coverings worn in school, should be made of plain material only and to adhere with our uniform standards. In line with World Health Organisation instructions, students will be reminded in tutor time tomorrow that hand sanitiser should be used when putting on and removing a face covering.

Please also supply a small sealable plastic bag where the face covering can be stored when not in use. We would also strongly encourage the use of washable masks, as disposable ones have a significant negative impact on our environment.

Tutors will be sharing good practice with their tutees regarding the correct use of face coverings and we ask that you share the clip below with your child also.

[Click here](#)

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

These sadly will now not be able to take place, all of our after school clubs will be suspended during this lockdown period.

PE in lesson time can carry on as normal.

ACCESS TO LRC BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

LRC access will continue as accordance with our current arrangements which are:

- Year 7 can access the LRC each day from 8am and from 3.15-5pm and also at lunch time and morning break time

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Other year groups can access on the following days – after school only from 15.15-17.00 - in the silent reading area only:

- Year 11 – Monday
- Year 10 – Tuesday
- Year 9 – Wednesday
- Year 8 – Thursday

CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE STUDENTS

The Government has now updated it's guidance on Clinically Extremely Vulnerable. The new definitions are available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

There are 2 ways you may be identified as clinically extremely vulnerable:

1. You have one or more of the conditions listed below, or
2. Your hospital clinician or GP has added you to the [Shielded patients list](#) because, based on their clinical judgement, they deem you to be at higher risk of serious illness if you catch the virus.

Children who live with someone who is identified as clinically extremely vulnerable should still attend school.

If parents and carers think that their child fits one of the criteria or they are on the shielded patient list please email covid19@worthinghigh.net

VISITORS TO SCHOOL

We are required to restrict all visits to school unless they are absolutely necessary. Any request a parent/carers makes to visit school will be triaged and may take place virtually rather than face to face.

External visitors to school will also be on an “absolutely necessary basis” only.

HOME/REMOTE LEARNING REMINDER

If students are at home due to illness, or are isolating, they can access all classwork through Microsoft Teams. Go to the relevant Team for the lesson they would have and go to the “Files” tab at the top. Work for some subjects will be posted in the year group Team as opposed to their individual classes Team. Here you will find all the lesson resources.

Please ensure your child submits all completed work to their teachers through Microsoft Teams or by email.

In the event of a whole year group being required to work from home, students should follow their normal timetable and access lessons through Microsoft Teams. At the start of each lesson they need to go to the relevant Team.

A live meeting will start promptly at the start of the lesson (9 am for Period 1, 10:05 am for Period 2 etc.). They need to join this meeting, turn their camera and microphone on but remain silent.

A register will be taken. After this their teacher will introduce the topic of the lesson and explain where they will find any resources that they need. They will also tell students how to submit completed work. If students have any questions during the lesson then please ask them to email their teacher directly.

ATTENDANCE

From the start of the autumn term 2020 pupil attendance has been mandatory and the usual rules on attendance have applied. The most recent government announcement on the new national restrictions has not changed the stance on attendance at school. Although school attendance is mandatory, there are some circumstances where pupils cannot attend school due to coronavirus (COVID-19). This category can only be applied when a student does not attend because their travel to, or their attendance at school would be:

- contrary to guidance relating to the incidence or transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) from Public Health England (PHE) and/or the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)
- prohibited by any legislation (or instruments such as statutory directions) relating to the incidence or transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19)

Following the new national restrictions we are still waiting on formal guidance from Department for Education, however schools remain fully open. Should a family choose to not send their child into school contrary to the coronavirus (COVID-19) guidelines set out by government this would be an 'un-authorised' absence.

AREAS CAUSING CONCERN

Please note the following areas have been identified as areas of concern for anti-social behaviour and criminal activity by the police: Hill Barn Golf Club area; Manor Sports Ground and The Lamb park area. We would advise all parents and carers to encourage your child to avoid these areas when out exercising during lockdown

UNIFORM

Please can I ask that all parents refer to our uniform policy (Attached) as we have had a number of students arriving at school in tracksuit bottoms that are not black and hooded sweatshirts which are not permitted in school. Please also note our policy regarding piercings, no piercings other than a stud in each earlobe are permitted. Students are not allowed to pierce other parts of their face or body and if they do so then there will be sanctions issued if the students do not then remove the piercing when asked. Many thanks for your support with this.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PROGRAMME - for year 10 and 11 students aspiring to attend a Russell Group university.

I would strongly encourage students who are interested in studying at a Russell Group university in the future to look at the website link included here: [Click here](#)

This will provide information for year 10 and 11 students and some links to a registration form where students can attend Oxford University as part of a summer school programme next year (either virtually or physically).

Please do get in touch with the team at inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk if you have any questions about the programme.

Please see attached a flyer regarding the programme.

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Time to get Festive and Creative.

All Students are invited to take part in a competition to design our school Christmas card that will be printed and sent to the family and friends of Worthing High School. Entries should be no bigger than A5 and can be drawn, painted, collaged, digital, printed or the students own Christmas inspired photograph. Artwork must be the student's original work.

The winner and 4 runners up will receive Art Ambassador Badges. All entries to be handed in to Ms Hunt in Art by the Friday 20 November 2020 in readiness to be judged by Mr Panayiotou.

Please click link for further information on our website [Link here](#)

CHARITY NON-UNIFORM DAY 23 OCTOBER 2020

Thank you for your generous contributions for our first non-uniform day of the year. In total we have raised **£990** for Worthing Mencap, a charity that champion the rights and provide support to people with learning disabilities and their families in the Worthing area, through the provision of a range of services, to help them lead independent lives engaging fully in the local community.

Our aim was to enable them to provide a 5 week program of events to be held at Splashpoint. This would benefit up to 50 people per week (250 in total), allowing them to engage with the community and exercise. Both vital as many of the people Worthing Mencap work with are finding that current circumstances restrict their ability to socialise and exercise.

CHILDREN IN NEED FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2020

Children in Need will be happening on Friday 13 November and we are determined that this is not going to be unlucky for us!!! Please follow link for more exciting information [Link here](#)

ASSEMBLY PROGRAMME AUTUMN 2

Please find below a link to our assembly programme autumn 2.

[ASSEMBLY ROTA](#)

LRC NEWSLETTER

Please click on the following link to view the November newsletter [LRC Newsletter](#)

FOWHS

Please see the attached letter from FOWHS.

YEAR 11 INFORMATION

Chichester College will be holding their next virtual open day event on Saturday 7th November, 10am to 1pm, for our year 11 students

This will help them explore their options and answer any questions they may have about studying at Chichester.

VACANCIES

We advertise staff vacancies on our website under [Join Us/Vacancies](#). Please take the time to have a look and share the information with anybody you know who might be interested in applying.

TWITTER

For up to date information don't forget to follow us on the links below:

Whole School: @WorthingHigh

Headteacher: @WorthingHigh_ht

South Downs Education Trust: @sdetrust

Trips: @worthinghighout

Worthing High Careers and Employability Service: @WorthingHighCar

Lettings: @HighLettings

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

11th November 2020 Parent Forum

2nd December 2020 Year 10 Teenage Booster Vaccinations

7th December 2020 SDET AGM Meeting 16:00pm

17th December Students leave early 13:30pm

17th December Year 11 Subject Review Evening

18th December Students leave early 13:30pm

Term dates for the 2020/2021 academic years are available on our website.

Link below:

[Term dates 2020/2021](#)