

Dear Parent/Carer

This has been a term like no other...which is probably similar to what I said at the end of the last academic year. As I have mentioned on a previous occasion, the staff and students have shown remarkable resilience and have adapted extremely well to the new procedures that we have to implement. It has not always been easy this term, but the Carre's community has shown the value of working with one another for the benefit of all and for this I would like to thank each and every one of the students and staff. The values of respect, patience and tolerance have never been more in abundance and required. I cannot see an immediate end to the pandemic so the measures that we have in place, such as the wearing of PE kit on days when students have that subject, and the shape of the school day, will remain the same after half term. For our students this means just one opportunity each day to purchase food from The Chill, so please continue to provide plenty for your son/daughter to eat during the day.

### **Face coverings**

Please can I please remind you that all students should have a face covering. These remain mandatory for those who travel to school on transport, but also for when they are around the school. The school office has had many requests to provide these and we simply do not have enough masks for students who are either forgetting to wear them, or have them in their blazers which they do not wear on PE days. I would suggest that students have at least two face coverings, one of which is worn and the other a spare to be kept in their school bag in case of emergency.

### **Lanyards**

A growing number of Sixth Form students are forgetting to wear their lanyards. The lanyards are used, amongst other things, to scan students on and off the school site using the InVentry system, and this is vital to know who is on site should there be a fire. Please remind your son/daughter that they must wear their lanyards every day.

### **Signing In and Out**

On a similar theme, please remind your son or daughter that if they arrive late, for whatever reason, they must sign in. This will avoid the school office spending time chasing up missing students who may actually be on site, and also ensure that we know where they are in the event of a fire.

### **Lunch accounts**

A gentle reminder that parents must remember to top up their child's lunch account. There is a growing number of students trying to purchase food when their accounts are already empty. The students are told when their accounts go below £5 and they are given a yellow flash card to give to their parents to remind them to have their accounts topped up; you are also, of course, able to see your child's balance on your ParentPay account. We will not let a child go hungry but overdrafts will only be given in exceptional circumstances.

### **Daily spend**

The automatic daily spend limit is £5 and your son/daughter will not be allowed to make purchases over this amount in any one day. If you would like this limit changed, please contact the school office via email: [enquiries@carres.uk](mailto:enquiries@carres.uk)

### **Around Town**

**Tesco** has asked us to advise students that a new traffic light system for controlling queueing and entry to their Northgate store will commence operation in the next week, and will be in place

on our return to school after the half term break. For the last few weeks Tesco has asked students from all three secondary schools in the town to queue separately from the general public when wanting to go in the store. This will no longer be the case with the new traffic light system in place. However, we have been informed by Tesco that the separate queueing arrangements will be reintroduced should students demonstrate that they are unable to social distance when in and around the store. Some students have mistakenly informed Tesco staff that they do not need to social distance as they are in their 'year group bubble', but of course this only applies when the students are in school. If possible, please reinforce this message with your son/daughter, as we will in school.

There have been reports of anti-social behaviour taking place around the **Sainsbury's** store after school on a couple of occasions over the course of the last week. It appears that a large group of students from all of the town's secondary schools are congregating in the car park and to the rear of the store and causing a nuisance. Sainsbury's has asked us to make parents aware that the Police will be patrolling this area to monitor this.

### **School Opening**

The school office will be open every day during the half term break from 9am to 1pm.

### **Covid 19 Enquiries**

If any member of your household displays any of the following symptoms, they need to remain at home and arrange to have a Covid-19 test:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

At this point, everyone else in the household will also need to isolate until the result of the test is known.

Please let us know as soon as possible by using the following details:

Half term, holidays and weekends	07709 915343	<a href="mailto:Covid19@carres.uk">Covid19@carres.uk</a>
Monday to Friday, 8am-4.30pm	01529 302181	<a href="mailto:Covid19@carres.uk">Covid19@carres.uk</a>
Monday to Friday, evenings (after 4.30pm)	07709 915343	<a href="mailto:Covid19@carres.uk">Covid19@carres.uk</a>

### **Next Term**

As we try to keep a level of normality to life at Carre's I would like to draw your attention to some events for next term.

- Virtual Christmas Concert – further details to follow
- Year 13 Parents' Evening will take place on 4 November online
- Mock examinations for Year 11 will start week commencing 16 November

### **Finally...**

Thank you for your support this term. The positive feedback that we receive from parents is very much appreciated by staff who have worked hard this term to provide a first-class education whilst keeping the students safe. I hope that you and your families have a well-earned break over the next week and that students can have some rest before returning on Monday 2 November.

**N M Law**  
Headteacher