



22 October 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians of Senior School and Sixth Form

I hope my letter finds you well and the impact of Covid-19 on your lives is not too great. We are fortunate to be in the position we are in, to continue to provide for our students at College having to make relatively small adjustments to maintain our safety. I hope that the detail below is timely and reinforces our desire to keep well-being at the core of our work and to reduce the impact of enforced Covid-related absence too.

Covid-19 update

We know that some of you may be anxious about the recent identification of a new case of Covid-19 in Guernsey. Public Health's contact tracing team are working hard to identify the source of the island's most recent Covid-19 case and to identify all potential contacts of this person to prevent further onward spread in the community. Please note that if you have not been contacted by the contact tracing team, you can carry on as normal. I would like to reassure you that our school continues to operate in line with Public Health advice, which includes regular handwashing, good respiratory hygiene, respecting personal space and vigilance around any pupils, students or staff displaying Covid-related symptoms.

As a community we need to remain vigilant, especially as we move towards the winter. We need to observe good hygiene, including lots of hand washing, respect everyone's personal space and if your child feels unwell please keep them at home and seek advice from the clinical helpline 756938 or 756969 if they have any Covid-related symptoms. As a reminder, symptoms are:

- New and severe fatigue
- New muscle ache for no obvious reason
- Headache (sinus pain, pain around eyes)
- Loss of smell/taste
- Sore throat
- Fever (high temperature, rigors, chills, cannot get warm)
- Shortness of breath, chest tightness
- Continuous new cough
- Children and Over 80s and 90s – loose stool, mild fever, not themselves with a cough presenting later

Provision of work

To ensure greater consistency and to make the provision of work linked to (Covid related) absence more straight forward between the teacher and the student(s), the detail below will be shared with your child(ren) on their return after half term.

If a pupil or student is having to isolate but is well enough to work

Core work will be provided via Teams and, at the teacher's discretion, the student might be invited to join the lesson via a Teams meeting. Students should follow their normal timetable in so far as this is practical, (as guided by the subject teacher). If there is no work in Teams (posted in the chat or through Assignments) or the teacher is not present online, then core work will be provided within 24hours, as has been the case this term. Parents, please encourage your daughter to take responsibility to access the work via Teams, to develop their independence as well as to support their teachers.

If a pupil or student is unwell and not well enough to work

Students are not expected to do any schoolwork when unwell. The teacher will either have made core work to be covered available through Teams or via a buddy and will support the student on their return to ensure that they are up to date.

Uniform update

We are also keen to introduce the following changes to uniform, to encourage the students to wear suitable outdoor coats and to actively travel to and from College. We continue to expect our students to have the highest standards; to wear their jacket at all times, to wear trousers (Fletchers for Senior School) or their skirts, no more than 2 inches above the knee, and to wear their school shoes whilst in the building.

In order to be safe travelling to and from College, we ask that the coat has some form of **reflectivity / be reflective** so that the person can be seen in the dark, as our key request. (The coat must be removed once inside the buildings as is currently the case).

Students are also welcome to wear training shoes whilst travelling to and from College, to encourage them to walk or cycle. (They may leave their school shoes in their locker to change into on arrival and before departure).

Well-being Award for Schools (WAS)

Dr Mitchell has asked me to include a brief update on the progress of the Well-being Award for Schools. Since her last letter at the beginning of term, all three teams (student, staff and parent) have held meetings and discussed updates and priorities.

Student update

With the departure of our Upper Sixth, the new well-being team has been established. Congratulations to Nicole who has been appointed the Well-being Senior Prefect. We are fortunate to have many of the same faces return, but also pleased to welcome new students from a range of year groups, all of whom are keen with fresh, exciting ideas.

On World Mental Health Day (Tuesday, 10 October) the Well-being team based themselves in the foyer to ask students for ideas and suggestions for future developments linked to well-being in College. We are meeting to discuss this and set new targets and priorities for the year.

You may also have seen on our social media pages that we will begin our Well-being Champion course after the half-term break. The aim of the course is to inform the girls about mental health and listening skills, as well as signposting to support and sharing safeguarding concerns.

Parent update

Our parent group met a few weeks ago to discuss the progression of some of the key items identified as priorities from the parental survey. One key item discussed was a referral pathway document. We know that parents are eager to understand in more detail what happens once they have raised a concern about their daughter with a member of staff and, more specifically, who is likely to be involved in this. We are pleased to report that the referral pathway can now be found on our [WAS webpage](#).

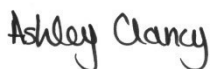
The WAS parent team are keen that the parent community have the opportunity to ask questions or to pass on suggestions that will be discussed at the following meeting and feedback will be sent out afterwards. The parent team can be contacted by email on [**parentwellbeingteam@ladiescollege.ac.gg**](mailto:parentwellbeingteam@ladiescollege.ac.gg)

You will be aware from previous correspondence that we have plans in place for any changes that we are required to make to our provision, based on Covid-19. After half –term we will share these with you and with the students, with a view to keeping well-being at the core of our work and to help achieve a calm and managed reaction to any short term changes and adjustments which may be needed to keep our community safe.

On behalf of everyone at College, I hope that you have a good half-term week and we look forward to our return on Monday, 2 November 2020.

Stay safe, stay well, stay in touch.

Yours sincerely



Ashley Clancy
Principal