



## ST MARY'S COLLEGE

01 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are now more than half-way through the first half-term and I am proud to say how well all the students have adapted to their new year group-especially the Year 7s.

Yesterday we had our first PSHE session which was extremely well received and it was wonderful to see all the students so engaged and focused in their tutor groups and year area. It has also been a joy to see students in their practical classrooms, enjoying Drama, Art and Science to name but a few. As you will know, it has been my plan since we returned to allow all students to go to all their normal classrooms as soon as it was deemed safe to do so.

Therefore, I am writing to let you know that from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October the bubbles that we placed students in for safety measures will be disbanded. The number of confirmed Covid cases across the school has stabilised and the Lateral Flow Testing that students undertake on a Monday and Wednesday have really helped to lower transmission and protect the wider community.

Your child received a new timetable today in an extended tutor time and will get another copy of the timetable on Monday in case they misplace this. Tutors also spent time with the younger students explaining where certain areas are and there will be extra staff on duty across the day to direct students to their classes. Please note that no student should worry about being late to a lesson or that they will get lost. All staff and students will work together to ensure that everyone arrives at their timetabled lessons safely and with as little lateness as possible.

However, we would still **strongly request** that your child wears a face mask when they are in internal spaces where a reasonable distance cannot be maintained. Plus, please continue with the twice weekly LFT at home on a Sunday evening and a Wednesday morning.

Last of all, I would like to really thank families for all of your support and understanding since we returned in September. St Mary's is truly an amazing place and are families are a key part of all we do.

I hope you have a peaceful weekend and enjoy spending time with your family as we now move into Autumn and the next few weeks before half-term.

God Bless,

Mrs M Stead

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