



Colton Hills Community School

Confidence. Happiness. Courage. Success.

Headteacher
Mrs A Stephens

**Colton Hills
Community School**
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support in securing such a positive first week back after the Easter break. We are grateful for your help in ensuring that students have returned happily, safely and smartly. I hope that you managed to gain some time together over Easter and were able to meet family and loved ones outside, in line with the easing of national restrictions.

The lighter mornings and good weather have heralded the start of the summer term, and it has been wonderful to see our students enjoying their breaks on our vast sports fields and play areas. In addition, it has been delightful to see our enrichment programmes starting again, particularly our Cadet (CCF) programme. We do of course continue in our mission to provide the best education to our pupils in the safest way possible in the weeks ahead.

Coronavirus Protective Measures

We welcome the Department of Education's decision to maintain consistency with all guidelines and a reminder that all protective measures remain in place from last term.

Face coverings in all indoor areas remain a requirement and students have again been mature and responsible in adhering to the requirements. We appreciate parents providing appropriate face coverings as well as ensuring that students have access to spares in school when needed.

National guidance states that outdoor social contact is much safer with the reduced levels of cases in the community, but we continue to work within bubbles as an added measure. We also try to ensure that all indoor areas are as well ventilated as possible.

Coronavirus Home Testing

Thank you for your continued support with twice weekly testing of all students. Thank you to parents and students for ensuring that these are completed as per the suggested schedule. We will update you when the next batches are due for release.

Attendance

I would like to thank parents for reinforcing the importance of full attendance and punctuality for students. Our attendance this week was 93%, which is still above current national figures, but not where we would like it to be. Please can I ask parents for their support in ensuring that students arrive on site by 8.20am, so that they are in their lesson learning by 8.30am. Unless your child is shielding, presents coronavirus symptoms or is clearly very sick, in the first instance your child should attend school. Our medical needs co-ordinators can assess the needs of a child who continues to feel unwell. We will call you should there be a need for them to go home.



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There are occasions when a child may have to miss school because of illness or if they have long-term medical issues. If this is the case, parents must contact school the same day before 8.30am to let us know the reason why the child is not in school.

Cyclists

We fully support students who would like to cycle to school and continually promote the health benefits of this mode of transport. If students are cycling, please remind them that they must dismount at the top gate and walk their bicycle into the school grounds, using only the pathways. I would recommend that all students dismount before the island during heavy traffic during the morning and evenings. Whilst not a legal requirement, I would also recommend that helmets are worn.

New Uniform

Please continue to ensure students are following our current uniform guidelines. As we move towards a new school uniform, please do not feel the need to replace old uniform. If needed, we are happy to loan items to support parents. If you need further guidance on what to do please contact the relevant House Leader for your child.

Key Dates

- 1. **Year 11 & Year 13 Examination Weeks: Monday 10th May – Friday 14th May**
- **Year 10 Parent Forum: Thursday 29th May** [register here](#)
- **May Day Bank Holiday (school closed): Monday 3rd May**
- **May Half-Term: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June**
- **Year 11 Prom (provisional date): Friday 16th July 2021**
- **End of Academic Year: Monday 19th July 12.00pm**

As we mark key points in our faith community calendars with the start of the holy month of Ramadan and the conclusion of the Easter period for Christians, I would like to wish you all well and good luck to all our students taking assessments in the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Andrea Stephens
Headteacher