



# MONTPELIER HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Carers

## Live Remote Learning for self-isolating students

We have received requests from some parents/carers for their child to be able to access Live Remote Learning (LRL) when absent from school for non-COVID reasons. We are sorry that we can only provide LRL for students with positive PCR tests who would be well enough to attend school but are having to self-isolate. Providing LRL does impact on the teaching and learning for students in the classroom. Any student who is too unwell to come to school should be resting and recuperating. Students can email their teachers for catch up work and will be supported to regain any lost learning when they are well enough to return to school.

## Uniform

We understand from Monkhouse (our uniform suppliers) that they are very close to providing all outstanding uniform orders. After half-term we will review all uniform contracts and expect all students to be able to meet the full uniform expectations. Please contact your child's tutor in November if your child needs to renew their uniform contract. All students have now been issued a locker and we are asking students to use these lockers to store their PE kits and coats. We do ask students to remove their coats as they come indoors; we monitor the ambient temperature in our inside spaces and when the temperature drops we will introduce our winter rules that allow students to wear their coats around the school site.

We really appreciate the support we receive from our parents and carers in ensuring their child attends school in full uniform.

## Face Masks

We are really pleased with the way our students wear their face masks in our school corridors. It does help to keep our community safe. There are some students who are repeatedly being issued with disposable face masks. Face masks remain an essential item of school uniform; please do ensure your child comes to school every day with a face mask (blue, white or black is acceptable). From Monday we will be issuing same day detentions for students (who are able to wear face masks), who do not have their face mask and have previously been given a disposable face mask.

## Reflection Room

Our wellbeing lead, Ms Pearce is providing a quiet space at lunchtimes for students who would benefit from sitting quietly and having time for reflection during the busy school day. This is also a space that students of all faiths can also use for prayer. If you think your child would benefit from spending some time in our Reflection Room, please email Ms Pearce on [emily.pearce@montpschool.org](mailto:emily.pearce@montpschool.org)



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## Year 7 CATs

Students in year 7 will be taking part in a Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT) next week. CATs are a suite of questions developed to support schools in understanding students' abilities and likely academic potential. This is not a formal test; CATs are a multiple-choice quiz, and your child will not need to revise or need to prepare any materials for them.

	WEEK 2				WEEK 1	
DAY	Monday 11th		Wednesday 13th		Monday 18th	
PERIOD	PERIOD 6 (Tutor)		PERIOD 2		PERIOD 6 (Tutor)	
7 Austin	Rm 9	MDR	Rm 13	JSP	Rm 9	MDR
7 Curie	MB4	ALH	D12	RL	MB4	KLA
7 Frank	D3	MMO	Rm 5	SLI	D3	MMO
7 Johnson	Rm 7	CAN	Rm 12	KAF	Rm 7	CAN
7 Parks	Rm 15	SEN	Rm 8	JGO	Rm 15	SEN

## Students feeling unwell during the school day

If a student feels unwell during the school day our trained first aid team will carry out an assessment and determine if the student may be too unwell to stay in school. We have had a few occasions where students have contacted parents directly instead of attending first aid. This is breaking our mobile phone ban and means that a qualified first aider has not carried out an assessment. We ask all parents and carers to always refer their child to first aid if they feel unwell. Once an assessment has taken place, we will call parents/carers and agree with you if your child is able to continue in school or if they need to be collected early. Whenever required we will support students in speaking to their parent/carer using our school phones.

## V6 Open Event Tuesday 19th October 2021

We invite all our current year 11 students to join us for our V6 Bristol Open Evening on Tuesday 19th October. Doors open from 5.45 with the first talk at 6pm from Mrs McClean and members of the Head Student Team in our Theatre from 6pm, repeated at 6.25pm. This is followed by a programme of presentations from subjects on their A level courses, an opportunity to explore our V6 building and talk to current Sixth Form students.

## Year 10 Curriculum

Students had the opportunity at the beginning of September to experience their courses in year 10 and reflect upon these. Ms Baggeley has worked with students whose options have needed to be adapted. Students' curriculum courses are now fixed, and students will not be able to make further changes. This will ensure they are not disadvantaged by having missed a term of work.

## Safeguarding our young people – Vaping

Vaping has become much more popular among teenagers in the past few years. Now, many more teenagers use e-cigarettes, like the brand JUUL, than traditional cigarettes. There are restrictions on the sale and advertising of e-cigarettes to young people, but many teenagers still use them.

When teens vape, what they're doing is inhaling steam that comes from hot nicotine liquid. E-cigarettes, vape pens and JUULs are all different devices for heating the liquid. Research shows that vaping has many medical risks.

E-cigarettes contain a lot of nicotine, which is very addictive. Getting addicted to nicotine can make it harder for teenagers to focus and concentrate. E-cigarettes also contain chemicals that could cause cancer, and there are many reports of serious lung problems connected to vaping. Additionally, vaping can make teenagers more likely to start smoking regular cigarettes.

Unlike regular cigarettes, e-cigarettes don't have a strong smell, so it's much easier for young people to use them in secret. The kid-friendly packaging and flavors of JUUL and other popular vape brands make vaping look fun, so even kids who wouldn't try cigarettes may be tempted. Teens often think that vaping isn't dangerous, and it's easy for underage kids to buy vaping devices online.

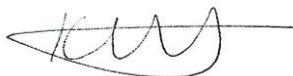
The [Charity Young Minds](#) recommends: 'If you're worried your child might be vaping, start with a general conversation. Try asking if other kids at their school/friendship group vape, and what they think about it. By finding out what they already know, you can start helping them understand the risks. This usually works better than just telling them that vaping is wrong. If your child is addicted to vaping, make sure to get care from an addiction specialist. Addiction to nicotine from vaping can be even more serious than addiction to regular cigarettes'.

We will be addressing the issue in our tutor time and PSHE lessons in an age appropriate way with our students. As well as explaining to the students the consequences of bringing vaping equipment into school – this is dealt with in the same way as bring tobacco into school and is a banned substance.

## Duke of Edinburgh

Best wishes to those Duke of Edinburgh students in years 10 and 11 who are completing their practice expedition this weekend. We have several hundred students taking on this amazing challenge over the upcoming weeks and wish them all the very best of luck.

Very best wishes



**Kerry McCullagh** Principal