



MONTPELIER HIGH SCHOOL

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9th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been wonderful to welcome students back to school in the sunshine and free from COVID restrictions.

Thank you to everyone who attended school COVID testing and to those who completed home testing. It is essential that everyone continues to test twice weekly – preventing infectious individuals from attending school is a crucial part of ensuring we keep our community protected and continue to enjoy learning safely together. Uploading your results to school and the NHS really helps the national effort of learning to live with the Coronavirus. We will continue to provide testing kits to all students and ask everyone to make testing part of their normal routines.

Celebration of Montpelier High School

We celebrated our historic first day with all students as Montpelier High School on Tuesday. Livestreamed to every classroom and in the presence of a small handful of guests who had contributed to the consultation process, we proudly welcomed everyone to our newly named School. Students then unveiled a striking mural that has transformed our entrance into a visual narrative of the name-change journey. Please find attached to this letter the press release, images and further details of the event [here](#) and on our [website](#).

Meet the tutor evening Thursday 16th September 3.45pm – 6.45pm

All parent/carers evenings will continue to be held remotely this year. Everyone will receive invites shortly to our 'Meet the tutor evening' on Thursday 16th September (3.45pm-6.45pm). Your child's tutor is looking forward to discussing with you how your child has returned to school. Every parent/carer can book a 5 minute teams meeting with their child(ren)'s tutor. The role of the tutor is fundamental to the home-school relationship and your child's tutor will be your first point of contact for wellbeing and academic support.

Please find [here](#) a YouTube video guide for Microsoft Teams for any of our new parents/carers who are not familiar with Teams.

Lunches

We made some changes to our lunchtime arrangements today to reduce queuing time and ensure that all students are able to enjoy their first choice from our menus. Temporarily we are not able to offer the pre-ordering of school lunches however we expect to reintroduce this facility shortly.

Please ensure there are adequate funds available in your lunch wallet on ParentPay to cover the cost of any lunches taken. May we remind you that lunches for year 7 are compulsory.

Face coverings

There is no expectation for students to wear face masks within classroom spaces or when outside, however students are expected to wear their face masks when moving around the school inside corridors. Please could all parents and carers ensure students are bringing face masks to school every day. If your daughter is in Year 7 and you have not let us know



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already that she should be exempt from wearing a face mask for any reason, please do contact us to confirm.

Allergens

A new law is being brought in to protect people with food allergies on 1st October 2021. It's called 'Natasha's Law' and it will mean food businesses will have to include full ingredients labelling on pre-packaged food. It has been introduced because of the death of a teenager called Natasha Ednan-Laperouse who died after having an allergic reaction to a baguette. She was just 15 when she collapsed on a flight from London to Nice on 17 July 2016. She had eaten a baguette that she bought from Pret a Manger. Our catering company Aspen will be fully compliant with this new legislation. They also want to have full information on all allergies to create a 'Food Allergy Record Sheet' with a photo of the student on the kitchen wall near where the food is served. Please find attached to this letter full information from Aspens about the change in the law, their allergen policy and a form to complete to share any special dietary requirements.

Enrichment – Wednesday afternoons 2.45-3.45

We are excited about the return of our Enrichment curriculum on Wednesday 15th September. Enrichment is part of our commitment to our mission of inspiring all students to become confident, ethical and compelling individuals with the aspiration and qualities to shape a better future for all. Enrichment is so important to us that we don't leave it as an optional after school extra; instead we build it into the school day for everyone.

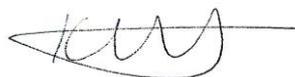
Learning for those who are self isolating

We will continue to set work for students who are self isolating and well enough to work using our Mixed Model Teaching approach (where the teacher teaches the class in school and can invite students from home to the live lesson via MS Teams). We are however currently experiencing some technical issues with MS Teams and our IT team is working hard to resolve this. In the meantime we will email students work that they can complete independently if they are unable to join the lesson via Teams therefore please encourage your child to check their school email. Please appreciate that teachers are teaching the class in school therefore will not be able to respond immediately to emails that your child may send.

If you or your child needs assistance please contact sally.ford@montpschool.org.

If your child has not received any work from their teacher or cannot access MS Teams they should email their teacher asking for work and then access work to complete in their subject on the following websites - Oak Learning Academy, BBC Bitesize, GCSE Pod ([Oak National Academy \(thenational.academy\)](https://www.thenational.academy/)) , [Home - BBC Bitesize](https://www.bbc.com/bitesize) and [GCSE Learning and Revision | GCSEPod](https://www.gcselearningandrevision.com/)) as well as reading a book in order to enhance their literacy skills and completing some exercise in order to develop health, fitness and wellbeing (there are many yoga, fitness workouts on YouTube). Our library portal also has a range of activities <https://sites.google.com/colstonsgirls.bristol.sch.uk/libraryportal/home> You may also email sally.ford@montpschool.org for assistance.

Yours sincerely



Kerry McCullagh Principal