



25th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Easter Holiday 2021

We hope this letter finds you and your families well and we would like to start by thanking you for the smooth return to College. We would like to take this opportunity to share a few messages regarding the Easter Holiday and the Summer Term. **Minsthorpe Community College closes to all students at 2.30pm on Friday 26th March and reopens for the Summer Term on Monday 12th April 2021.**

Reporting Positive Cases of Covid-19

It is important that you continue to report to us any positive cases of COVID-19 where a student shows symptoms up to 48 hours from the end of term, i.e. until 2.30pm on Sunday 28th March. Please notify the College via email enquiries@minsthorpe.cc or via text message on School Gateway if your child gets a positive result following a lateral flow test or a PCR test. (A positive lateral flow test must always be followed up with a PCR test.) Staff on call at the College will inform close contacts of the positive case that they need to self-isolate.

If your child develops symptoms after 2.30pm on Sunday 28th March, and subsequently tests positive for Covid-19, you should get in touch with NHS Test and Trace and follow their guidance.

Lateral Flow Testing at Home

We are extremely pleased with the high percentage of students whose parents/carers have consented to them completing lateral flow tests at home. Advice from Public Health England is to:

- continue to test twice a week at home with each test being three to five days apart;
- report results [online](#) as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping us to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country;
- continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays;
- test before returning to College for the summer term, either on Sunday evening or Monday morning, to find and isolate any positive cases.

Students should have enough home test kits to allow them to do this. Families and households can also access [home test kits for adults](#).

Please remind your child that they must follow the COVID-19 restrictions even if they receive a negative test result.

New Appointment – Curriculum Team Leader for Maths

We are delighted to extend a warm welcome to Mr Ian Lancashire, who has joined the College as Curriculum Team Leader for Maths. Mr Lancashire is an experienced teacher and leader from an academy in Leeds and we look forward to him bringing further improvements to our successful Maths team. Every student has been given a mini whiteboard and pen to use in their Maths lessons. Please ask your child about the ways in which this is helping them with their learning.



College Uniform – Advanced Notice

Our expectations in terms of uniform remain in the Summer Term, including hair style/colour and jewellery. As the weather will be milder, students will no longer be allowed to wear outdoor coats and hoodies in classrooms. In line with this year's uniform policy, they must wear a black blazer and/or a plain black V-neck jumper/cardigan. Students can continue to wear their Minsthorpe PE kit to College on the days they have PE. (The first week of next term is Week B.)

Home Learning in the Summer Term

Students and parents/carers have given us positive feedback about Satchel: One, our platform for home learning. After the Easter Holiday, students in all year groups need to return to good habits in terms of completing home learning in order to maximise their progress.

Final Word

Please remind your child of the importance of following the COVID-19 restrictions during the Easter Holiday. **In particular, they must not go into the homes of friends and family.** It is important that everyone plays their part in reducing the transmission of coronavirus, so that the Government is able to meet the milestones on its roadmap to more freedoms.

Have a safe and relaxing Easter break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Gilmore' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr M Gilmore
Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. A. Merritt' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs R Merritt
Principal