

Dear Parent/Carer,

We were so glad to welcome back children from all year groups yesterday. I wanted to write to you today with a few updates.

Masks:

As mentioned in the letter prior to half term, it is now compulsory for students to wear masks on the way in to school, in corridors, in the dinner queue and when leaving school. We have issued students with disposable masks if they have arrived to school without one. If possible, it would be best to send your child to school with a mask of their own if they have one. Please ensure that you remind them each day as we will continue to remind them in school.

Anybody who completed the exemption form prior to half term has now been issued with a small card to carry in their blazer pocket. They can then show staff the card if they are challenged on not wearing a mask.

Access to computers at home:

We have been fortunate to have received a number of computers from the DfE. We would like to distribute these to students who do not have access to any device at all at home. We will be conducting a survey with the students to determine which students have access to a device at home and will then speak to individual families about the next steps for collecting a laptop from us.

Impact of national lockdown:

As you will all be aware, from Thursday 5th November, the country will go back in to lockdown. However, schools are expected to remain open. As always I will update you with any further changes if they occur.

School dinners:

We cannot provide school dinner to any student who does not have money on their account. Money for students who have Free School Meals is automatically added to accounts. It is important that you ensure that your child does have money on their account each day if you wish for them to have school dinners. If you are having issues with connecting to parent pay, please contact reception and they will advise you on what to do next.

If you receive one of the following, you may be eligible for Free School Meals:

If you, the parent or carer, receive at least one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- the guarantee element of Pension Credit

- Child Tax Credit, but NOT entitled to Working Tax Credit and you have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs¹
- Support under of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 section 95
- Universal Credit (income thresholds apply)

If you believe this applies to you, you are able to apply at:

<https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/information-for-residents/education-and-schools/benefits-for-school-aged-children/free-school-meals-and-free-milk/>

If you feel you will struggle with the application, please contact us and we will be more than happy to support.

If you have any concerns/queries, as always please contact me on ehoward@nusa.org.uk

Take care,

Emma Howard
Head of School