



Friday 19th November 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for all your ongoing support for the school. Please find below some information and updates about the work of the school.

Mock exams

Students in Year 11 and Year 13 have now completed their mock exams. Their attitude and behaviour were excellent and they showed high levels of motivation in their approach to the exam period. Please continue to remind students about the importance of studying hard throughout the year in order to be well-prepared for the exams they will be taking in the summer.

Upcoming Parents Evenings:

- Release of mock exam results for Year 11s – Thursday 2nd December 3.30-4.30pm
- Year 11 and Year 13 Parents Evening – Thursday 9th December 4.30-6.30pm

Please note the change of date for Year 13 parents' evening. This has been made to support parents who may have children in both year groups and to ensure parents have information about Year 13 students' progress at the earliest possible opportunity. If you are unable to attend for any reason, please contact your child's Head of House to let them know.

Open Evening – Thursday 20th January

The second Open Evening of the year will take place on Thursday 20th January. Please encourage current Year 11 students to attend and please share the date with any friends or family who you know are interested in joining the school next year.

Barts Health Clinical Skills Day

Year 12 students recently benefited from a full day of clinical skills sessions, led by our partners from Barts Health. As part of this day, students took part in a range of practical activities designed to support them in becoming future health workers. This included resuscitation training and an induction into effective infection control. Students greatly benefited from these sessions and we are grateful to staff from the Barts Health Education Academy for coming in to run this day for our students.



Bow Community Day

Five of our fantastic Year 13 Health and Social Care students supported the Bow Community Day on Saturday 30th October. They ran activities for families attending the event, as part of the UTC's desire to make a positive contribution to the local area. We received excellent feedback from the organisers of the event. The organisers commented: *'We are very grateful for the hard work and effort they had clearly put in and the event would not have been the same without them. We had lots of children and families commenting on how excellent their activities were. Please send them our thanks.'*

Uniform and dress code

All students must adhere to the school's uniform and dress code. All students must wear their lanyard and ID card at all times when they are inside the school building.

Students in Year 10 and Year 11 must wear school uniform and are not permitted to wear sweatshirts, hoodies or coats within the school building.

Sixth Form students are required to wear professional dress, with no jeans, no trainers, no hoodies, no hats or caps, no coats within the school building and no headphones or phones to be used within the school building at any time.

A number of Sixth Form students have come to school this week wearing trainers. If this happens, students will be offered plimsolls or, if they live close to the school, the opportunity to go home and change their shoes. Students will not be permitted to come into school wearing trainers. If there is a medical or other issue affecting footwear, parents should contact the school about this.

COVID-19 Control Measures

Dealing with possible or confirmed cases of COVID 19

Students and staff should not come into school if they have symptoms of COVID 19 or if they have had a positive test result. Anyone who has symptoms is advised to take a PCR test and to self-isolate until they have the results. If the result is negative, they can return to school when they feel well enough. If the result is positive, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days, following the government guidelines.

If anyone develops COVID-19 symptoms while in school, they will be sent home immediately, recommended to take a PCR test and to self-isolate until they receive the results. Students do not need to self-isolate if



Principal: Dr Katharine Vincent

they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or if they are a close contact of someone with COVID-19. Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all students to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Contact tracing

Schools are no longer required to carry out contact tracing. In the event of a confirmed case at school, NHS Track and Trace will work with the staff member, student and/or parent/carer to identify close contacts.

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a positive COVID case, or if they live in a household with a COVID case, providing one of the following:

- They are under 18
- They are over 18 and fully vaccinated
- They are in an approved COVID 19 trial
- They are not able to vaccinate for medical reasons

If not required to self-isolate, an individual who is a close contact of a confirmed case will be advised to take a PCR test, but should continue to attend school in the meantime. If the result is negative, they should continue to attend school; if the result is positive, they should immediately self-isolate and notify the school.

Thank you for all your ongoing support for the school, which is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K Vincent
Principal