



# THE ECCLESBOURNE SCHOOL

*'Learning Together For The Future'*

Head Teacher  
**James McNamara** BA(Hons): NPQH

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## Updates and Key Information

Friday 14 May 2021

Dear parents and carers,

### **Face Coverings**

The Department for Education has this week issued new guidance on the wearing of face coverings in schools. As part of the government's move to Step 3 of the national "roadmap", from Monday 17 May, new advice applies to the use of face coverings in schools. From Monday, face coverings are no longer recommended by the DfE for students in classrooms or communal areas, in all schools. Students will still be required to wear face coverings on buses. Students who wish to continue to wear a face covering may do so. The government has said that this change has been made possible by the vaccination programme and the twice weekly testing of students and staff in school. It is important that students continue to carry out and report the tests. All other covid safety measures in operation in school remain in operation and are unchanged. We will continue to keep you informed of any further changes to government guidance.

### **Leavers Day**

The last fifteen months have been an unprecedented time for students in Upper School and VI Form, but we cannot congratulate them enough for the way they have responded to the demands placed upon them. They have made the most of learning opportunities online and adapted to changed routines admirably. Their resilience, commitment and "can do" attitude will stand them in good stead for their future destinations whether this is our VI Form or pastures new. On that note we would like to remind you that Leavers Day will be Friday 28 May this year. For Year 11 the day will start at 8.50am and finish at 12.30pm. For Year 13 the celebration begins at 8.40 and will end around mid-day. Students will have an opportunity to spend time with their form tutors, teaching staff and peers to say goodbye, sign shirts and celebrate this important rite of passage as a community. There will be a special celebration and student performances. We are sure that it will be a very memorable and enjoyable experience for all.

### **Sixth Form Induction**

Further information on our VI Form induction week (Monday 5 July – Friday 9 July) will be released in the coming weeks. Attendance is considered essential to allow our provisional students to get a flying start to Year 12.

### **Work Experience**

Although it is not yet possible to arrange any on-site work experience placements with employers for Year 10 this year there will be opportunities of this kind for students when restrictions hopefully ease in Year 11. To support this process, we advise that students log-on to their **Unifrog** account and spend time familiarising themselves with it. Unifrog is an excellent resource for finding out about careers information, advice and guidance as well as preparing for university applications, its never too soon to begin thinking about this. Students may also book a careers appointment with our



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independent careers advisor by speaking to or emailing the Upper School pastoral team or our Head of PDC and Careers, Mrs Earp. In the meantime, we will be providing in-school opportunities to engage remotely with employers and the world of work.

Every Year 12 student is advised to secure some virtual contact with employers before the end of this academic year. If your child has been unable to secure some virtual interaction or would like further support, please contact Mrs Bamber, Head of Year 12.

## Year 12 examinations - study leave

Year 12 students' examination leave commences on Monday 7th June 2021 and finishes on Friday 11th May 2021. During this time, students may work from home should they wish to do so in order to maximise their planned revision time. It is expected that students will use this time productively and I hope that you will continue to support us by not permitting a student to use the time for paid work. During the period of examination leave, students will only need to be registered when they sit an examination. However, if they do come into school at any other time during this period, including for a lesson, they must sign in and out at the main reception and be in full Sixth Form dress. Students will also be required to register in their usual study spaces. It is absolutely essential that following study leave, students maintain their usual high levels of attendance and effort during their final weeks.

## Grade awarding

Following the issue of interim reports at the end of April we continue to be so impressed with Year 11 and 13 students' focus and attitude. They are working very hard and have performed extremely well so far. We are nearly there now so let's all keep up the good work over the remaining weeks. A further Interim report will be issued at the end of this half term with information on in-class assessment and an updated projected grade. The final moderated Centre Assessed Grades will be submitted to the examination boards by 18 June subject to internal moderation and then external moderation by the awarding bodies. For this reason, schools are not permitted to share the final Centre Assessed Grades they submit to the awarding bodies with students or parents/carers. It is important that we continue to work together to enable your child to achieve the best possible outcomes. If you need to speak to us at any point, we are here for you and please let us know via [courabi@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:courabi@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk) (Year 11) or [scarnwell@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:scarnwell@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk) (Year 13). Results days are Tuesday 10 August from 7.30 am for Year 13 and Thursday 12 August from 8.00 am for Year 11. All our usual on-site support, advice and guidance will be available on results days.

Best wishes and stay safe,

James McNamara  
Head Teacher

Clarissa Ourabi  
Head of Upper School

Simon Carnwell  
Head of Sixth Form