



Newsletter Week Ending 26th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well. It has been a very busy few weeks. I think everyone deserves this break although the INSET for staff will go on, albeit remotely. I did want to say, once again, how superb the students have been over the past few weeks. Living through a pandemic is challenging and I have been impressed by their attitude and approach. We have had our first cases of Covid-19 amongst the student population (two in total) both in Year 11.

Parents have been kept informed during the week of these developments. Please be assured that the school continues to work hard to minimise any potential risk to students, staff and the wider community. We will continue to be vigilant.

Inset days Friday 27 and Monday 30 November

A reminder that the school is closed to students on **Friday 27 and Monday 30 November**.

What to do over the weekend if you need to contact the school

If you need to make contact with the school over the weekend to notify the school of a positive test result please email

Covid@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk

This account will be monitored throughout the weekend and senior staff are on call to respond if anything needs dealing with urgently. The sooner we have information, the better we can action it.

If reporting a positive test, please include:

- Name of child
- DOB
- Contact number
- Date symptoms started
- Date of test
- Date of results
- Full names of any siblings/co-inhabitants who attend Pittville School
- Full names of students with whom they travel to or from school with -if applicable.

Of course during the school day you can also contact the school directly by phone

Remote Parents' Evenings

Next week we will host our first large scale virtual parent event. Year 8 parents' afternoon will take place across 2nd -3rd December from 4.00pm - 6.30pm, which will offer an opportunity for parents to discuss the progress their son/daughter has made thus far. We are using online software known as 'School Cloud' to host this virtual event. Year 8 parents have been sent guidance for logging on and using the software.

We intend to hold similar events for both Years 9 and 11 respectively, after the Christmas break and guidance and relevant information will be sent to parents via Edulink nearer the time.

Last day of Christmas Term

Because our final day of this term before the Christmas break (Friday 18th December) is a half-day, I have made the decision that students and staff should work from home on this last half-day. This will enable a further deep clean of the school to take place ahead of the Christmas break. In this regard, and unless circumstances change, our last day of this term will be Thursday 17th December.

Remote Learning Section of the School Website

We have recently launched a new remote learning section on the school website. At some point over the course of this year, our students may need to self-isolate at home due to Covid-19. This could happen in three possible ways:

- In the event of a national lockdown and school closing. We call this a **Tier A** scenario.
- We may need to ask a larger year group of students to self-isolate. We call this a **Tier B** scenario.
- You, or someone in your family, develop symptoms. In this case, you will be forced to self-isolate. We call this a **Tier C** scenario.

We will ensure appropriate remote learning is available for all scenarios. Please check our school website for more details.

Work for Self-isolating Students

If your child is absent from school while they are self-isolating, waiting for a Covid test or waiting for a family member to have a Covid test, we ask that you follow the following instructions.

- Contact the school as you normally would for absence. A message will then automatically be sent to Mr Lawton and he will notify subject teachers.
- Please do not contact subject teachers or other members of staff directly.
- After 24 hours of absence, check SMHW where work will have been set for your child. This work will vary but might be a PowerPoint presentation, a worksheet, a video or a revision task.
- If after 24 hours your child cannot find their work, please email achieve@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk.

This procedure is only for students who are self-isolating. If your child is going to be absent for a few days (perhaps due to a cold) they will need to catch up with their teachers upon their return to school. If your child will be absent for a longer period of time (perhaps for a broken bone/operation) still contact your child's Head of House as you normally would.

Please see our [guidance for parents about Covid 19 symptoms](#) information about what to do if your child is ill.

Have a pleasant weekend and stay safe

Mr Gilpin