

Dear Parents,

Given the escalating numbers of Covid cases in the local area and nationally, we have had to make some swift decisions around adapting aspects of the 6th Form routine in our bid to make tomorrow even safer than today. These changes are designed to be further preventative measures to maximise safety for all our students, and we continue to try and create smaller 'bubbles' of students within the '6th Form bubble' as a whole. We appreciate that more change is frustrating, but we stress that these changes are designed to help ensure the 6th Form remains open, allowing all live lessons to run safely.

Yesterday, students received a detailed overview of all the updated expectations in the 6th Form and an assembly outlining the changes and their purpose. The main headlines are as follows:

- 1. Y13 will continue with all live lessons in school but should return home for their ILearn *where possible*.**
This is to minimise the volume of students in the shared 6th Form Areas.
 - For students for whom this is not possible because of individual circumstances/needs/buses/only have a single ILearn etc, let the Sixth Form Team know and we will, of course, make appropriate alternative arrangements to house them safely in school. All students have very individual circumstances and we will continue to respect that and personalise their timetables/support packages.**
- 2. Y12 will continue to remain in school full time for all lessons and ILearn.** The only **exception to this is Weds Week 2 when Year 12 will finish school at 12.35pm (Devizes Campus). On Weds Week 2 at the Lavington Campus, students should only attend lessons at school on that day and not ILearn where possible.** By keeping Y12 in school as much as is safely possible, they will have an increased chance of adapting successfully to Sixth Form life and developing the right independent habits, routines and systems. This is especially important given the disruption last year; students did not get to experience external exams or the full 6th Form Induction to build the cognitive skills they will need post-16. We now have an important opportunity to develop these skills during ILearn lessons within school.
- 3. If remaining at home for ILearn, students are expected to be as productive as possible.** Students should use their time as they would in school. This includes working on revision/post 18 planning and preparation/wider research around their subjects/ ILearn work etc. Resources and support materials are available virtually in all subject areas on the Devizes Sixth Form VLE. However, any students needing specific support around this need to contact their subject teachers or a member of the 6th Form Team and we will provide them with what they need.
4. If not in lessons, students should not hang around in numbers or remain in/around either school site and we strongly advise that they comply with the latest national Rule of 6. We would also strongly advise all 6th Formers to avoid any mass gatherings or parties etc where the risks of Covid infection are far higher.
5. There are minor operational changes in the shared 6th Form areas and the entrance points to the 6th Form Block to separate Y12 and Y13 as much as possible.
6. Facemasks must be worn in the 6th Form Block and when moving around both school sites, and physical distancing and regular handwashing/sanitizing are required.

As ever, we appreciate all parental and student support with adopting these new measures, the decisions have not been taken lightly.

Any student needing help or support at the moment need only ask a member of the 6th Form Team. We will continue to do everything we can to ensure our 6th Form Community is safe and live lessons continue to run for all. Please be assured that we are reviewing the situation daily, and should the risk level drop locally, we will look to reinstate the 'normal' daily routine as quickly as possible.

Best wishes,

The Sixth Form Team