



Information for Pupils & Parents – 21st October 2020

We continue to plan on the assumption that schools will reopen on Monday 2nd November, after the extended half-term holiday. At that time, we will make a couple of minor changes to our operating procedures.

Sixth Form Attendance

From **Monday 2nd November**, all Year 13 and Year 14 pupils will **attend school for the full day**. On afternoons when they do not have any timetabled classes, pupils will be expected to attend Independent Study, as outlined on their timetable.

The one exception to this is on a Wednesday, when pupils have permission to leave school at 2.20pm.

PE and Games classes

As part of the tighter restrictions implemented by the NI Executive in an attempt to reduce COVID-19 infection rates, indoor sporting activities have been prohibited for a four-week period.

One of the unintended consequences of this restriction is that school PE classes cannot take place inside for as long as this prohibition remains in place.

The PE department is planning outdoor activities for the period after half-term, in order to provide our pupils with the opportunity to exercise that is so important for their physical and mental wellbeing. However, as we move further into autumn, poor weather may mean that pupils have to be supervised within a classroom during their PE lessons.

Similarly, all rugby and most hockey activities across Northern Ireland have been paused. This limits our Games lessons and so we have decided to **temporarily pause Games classes**.

Consequently, from Monday 2nd November until further notice, pupils will be encouraged to go home at the end of Period 8 (2.20pm) on their Games day. Study facilities will be available for pupils (in the Assembly Hall) who are unable to go home until the end of the day.

We will continue to keep all other arrangements under review.

J Wylie
Principal