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28 August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Returning to College

It is my pleasure to write to you ahead of our final run into the beginning of term for all pupils. We are all so looking forward to seeing the College community again after all this time, albeit in exceptional circumstances.

Following my letter last week, outlining some of the key changes to our working and learning environment, I am now in a position to share with you further operational details of what we have planned, in order to create a Covid-secure College, whilst still maintaining a broad and ambitious education for your children. We are disseminating this information through three booklets:

- A guide for parents <u>HERE</u>
- A guide for senior school students <u>HERE</u>
- A guide for junior school pupils HERE

Given the particular complexities of return for our youngest children, Miss Whitwood has also written a letter for all Junior School pupils, which you can find <u>HERE</u>.

Do please share these documents amongst your family and I would advise that you also read the pupil documentation; it will be helpful for you to see what we are saying to your children and it might be nice for you to read it through together, as a family.

Although life will be very different, especially in those first couple of weeks, as we aim to settle everyone into a new routine, we hope and expect that the community will quickly readjust and that much of what makes St Dunstan's so special will continue to permeate the culture of our school.

This week we have had Year 10 on-site and it has been touching to see them so enthusiastically bound into school in their uniform, even if it is for the purpose of taking examinations! Next week we undertake the induction of our new teaching and support staff colleagues, before investing in all of our staff, considering the priorities for the year ahead, completing mandatory training and, in particular, going through how our new school operations will work. Just because we are working our way through such complexities with this pandemic, does not mean that we forget our development plan priorities for the year ahead; far from it! We have a building to build and an exciting trajectory to capitalise upon, and whilst it is going to be a challenging year, it is going to be a particularly exciting one for us all. On Friday, we will be inducting all new pupils, details of which have already been circulated to those involved.

I will write to you again next Friday, as we look forward to a first week in school, and in the meantime I wish you all a very enjoyable long weekend.

Yours sincerely

Mr N P Hewlett Headmaster

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