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24th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your continued support in getting all students back into school safely in the past 3 weeks and for helping to ensure we have had such a positive and purposeful start to the new academic year. It has been wonderful to have our students back, and to have them learning with us again. We will do all we can to provide the best education possible for your child, while ensuring we have all COVID-19 protective measures in place to secure the health and safety of our whole school community. We are very proud of what our students have achieved since their return.

Thank you for continuing to follow public health guidelines and encouraging your children to do the same. You are already aware of the steps we have put in place to ensure the safe return of all students to school. We know that you will be keen to understand the impact that we have had in our first weeks of the term, and what our plans are to ensure all students catch up with any missed learning, and what will happen if students are asked to stay at home over the coming months.

That is why I am writing to you, in order to keep you fully informed. This letter will also be published openly on our website alongside all other COVID-19 related information which we have done since the beginning of this pandemic.

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School reopening	 Our students are following their full curriculum, studying the broad range of subjects we offer at all Key Stages We have introduced staggered start times, break and lunchtimes and end of the day times for different year groups We have some additional provision, for example Breakfast Club at the start of the day, and additional catch-up sessions for Year 11 students at the start of the day We have an extended day for some sixth form students on Mondays
Attendance	 Attendance in the first week of the new term was 98% Attendance for all students is currently 95% which is well above the reported national attendance level of 88% at present Attendance for disadvantaged students is currently 94%
Coverage of the curriculum	 Teaching staff have re-planned and adapted the curriculum for students to take account of school closure and lockdown Further re-shaping of the curriculum in each subject will continue following the assessment of gaps in students' knowledge and skills as teaching continues this term Knowledge organisers for students were developed during lockdown to support with student rebuilding of knowledge of key ideas (all Key Stages) Our Curriculum Policy and assessment practices have been updated in response to school closure



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Remote learning March - July 2020	 Work was set and assessed throughout lockdown using Class Charts for students, with additional communication via email Microsoft Teams live lessons were delivered to Year 10 and Year 12 students to support face-to-face teaching in school which re-commenced in June 2020 Once face-to-face learning re-commenced in school from June, 61% of Year 10 students and 63% of Year 12 students were able to attend their school provision
Remote learning in the future	 For individual students who are required to self-isolate, work is provided and assessed via Class Charts, Oak National Academy and Seneca Learning, coordinated by the relevant Year Achievement Coordinator For a year group lockdown, live lessons would immediately take place following the school timetable, using Microsoft Teams; work would be assessed using Class Charts For a full school closure, live lessons would take place using Microsoft Teams; work would be assessed using Class Charts
Mental health and wellbeing	 External support is in place for all students through our planned Personal, Social & Development curriculum, and provision in tutor time Individualised support is available based on need from our pastoral team which includes from our mental health first aiders, school counsellors and various external agencies, including HABS (Hoddesdon & Broxbourne Settings)

Thank you for your continued support in these challenging times. Please remember to follow both the school's and public health guidance to keep everyone learning safely.

Yours faithfully

Robin Newman

Principal

