



# Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

21 October 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

## **Covid-19 Update: October 2021**

I write to update you at the end of the first half-term of the year. It has been a very positive start to the academic year. We visit lessons very regularly and see students working hard, being challenged and doing well. They deserve huge credit for the way they have started the year and I am delighted that Year 7 have settled in and have made new friends. They are a fantastic year group and are now firmly part of our community.

In this letter, I provide an update on Covid-19. As you will be aware, cases are rising nationally in particular amongst secondary aged children. At the time of writing, we have 28 confirmed cases – for the sake of transparency, I feel I must let you know. Whilst this number is high, I do not feel it is cause for alarm; this figure is considerably lower than most local secondary schools and we must remember that covid is a mild illness for most young people. I have contacted Public Health England to take advice from them. They have advised that we can reintroduce some covid restrictions should we wish to do so, but they are not directing us to take extra precautions at this point.

I would like to confirm that the College remains fully open to all students; there are no plans for a further lockdown or closure and students should attend as normal. There are some measures that I feel would be prudent to reintroduce from after half-term and these are outlined below. We will reverse these restrictions as soon as case numbers in College reduce – they should be seen as temporary measures only.

**Face Coverings:** we will ask students to wear face coverings in communal areas of the College. They will not need to wear them in lessons. Please ensure that your son / daughter has a face mask with them every day in order that they can wear one if requested to do so.

**Hand Sanitiser:** sanitiser is available for students to use on entry to the building. Students should use this on entry and exit to the building and classrooms.

**One-way system:** we have maintained the one-way system this academic year, as it helps with student movement around the building. This will remain in place.

**Assemblies:** will stay online for whole-college and will remain face to face for Year and House groups.

**Parents' evenings:** will be on 'school cloud' for this academic year. Further details will be sent to you in advance of parents' evening for your son / daughter.



**Principal: Stuart Edwards**

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There are no plans to return to year group bubbles. All students will maintain access to all areas of the College as they do now. I do not want to restrict students' access to specialist classrooms or to the full curriculum.

I would like to remind all parents / carers that the vaccine date we have been allocated is 9 November. Please can I ask you to complete the NHS online consent form to indicate whether you would like your child to be vaccinated or not.

I would like to wish you and your family a restful half-term break

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Edwards', with a small flourish at the end.

Stuart Edwards  
Principal