

3rd December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I regret to inform you that the school has seen a significant spike in Covid19 infections in the last few days and a number of staff and students are now having to self-isolate. Due to the number of staff absent, we are unable to deliver the curriculum to all year groups. We are prioritising year 11 students, who are currently taking their mock exams, and year 13 students who will be taking external examinations next summer. This situation is likely to continue for at least the next two weeks due to the prescribed isolation period.

In order to help prevent further infections, when your child is in school, I would ask you to encourage them to wear a face covering in the shared corridors and spaces unless they are exempt. Any student who requires a mask has been given one but some students who have face coverings, are choosing not to wear them in the corridors despite frequent reminders from staff. Please impress upon your child how vital it is that they wear their face covering in shared areas and do not mix with students from a different year group bubble.

Teachers have been asked to set work online for those students who have been asked to self-isolate but they are also being required to cover for absent colleagues whilst in school and this means they cannot always respond promptly to queries from students. If your child is experiencing difficulty accessing the work online please see the user guides on our website at <https://www.cleevepark-tkat.org/information-for-students/google-classroom-and-g-suite> . For help with logging in and accounts please email cps-gsuitehelp@cleevepark-tkat.org . It is inevitable that students will experience far more “cover” lessons than we would like but I hope you will understand the pressure teachers are under at this time and that they are doing their best in an extremely challenging situation.

The school will remain open for as long as it is safe to do so but it is unlikely all year groups will be able to attend until more staff return to school. If it is necessary to ask you to keep your child at home, we plan to notify you via the MyEd system. Unfortunately, we experienced a technical problem with our MyEd email system over the weekend which delayed emails reaching parents. This issue has been resolved with the supplier of the system. Updates are also being posted on the school website so please check this over the coming weeks.

Thank you for your support at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

V Ray

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