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Ms Jo Hawkin Headteacher

Noddomy

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## Dear Parent/Carer

We have now had our first complete full week in school for all year groups and it has been a very positive start so far. Students have already achieved over 19,000 achievement logs, golden tickets have been awarded to students for the 'swap shop' and Year 7 have been bringing work to show on 'proud Thursdays.' We are proud of how well students have settled into the new routines in this new school year. It is fantastic to see them moving around the school to lessons and being able to participate in practical lessons in science labs, art and DT rooms. All those I have spoken to have said how much they are enjoying the lifting of restrictions. Year 7 have settled very well and are already familiar with the school buildings and their areas for break and lunch.

The new mobile phone policy has been implemented smoothly and we are already noticing a positive difference in school. Students are talking to each other more, making their way to lessons more quickly and are learning how to arrange to meet friends without a phone! Some parents have asked about the security of phones in school. Phones are collected in under staff supervision, placed in a child's individual wallet (with a photo of them for easy return), placed in the form group folder and then into the year group box. The box is then locked away until form time when phones are returned. Schools have to take 'reasonable care' of secured items during the day and we take this responsibility seriously.

Over 95% of students are in the correct uniform and many look very smart indeed. Year teams are on hand to help if there are issues that need resolving and I thank you for your support in ensuring your child is wearing the correct uniform.

We know that the pandemic is not over yet and there are currently a number of students ill with COVID-19. We continue to liaise with Public Health over any extra steps we need to take and we will be in touch separately if changes in our risk assessments are needed. As ever, please remain vigilant about any symptoms, encourage your children to test twice a week and keep us informed of any results. There have been a number of student visits to the medical room this week already. If students display symptoms of COVID-19 at home they should not come to school but should have a PCR test at a test centre instead.

If your child is aged 12 to 15 you will have received a letter offering a vaccination in school for COVID-19. The programme will be delivered by the NHS and, if you give your consent, we will need the letter returned by **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September** so that they can plan.

Finally, although Christmas is a long way away, I need to let you know that the extra bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December, so we now break up at midday on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Yours sincerely

J. Hawkin

Jo Hawkin **Headteacher**