



Scalby School

being the best we can be

Thursday 17th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are keeping well. I am happy to say that over the past week the number of students with Covid-19 has dropped considerably, as it appears numbers of infections in the school community has spiked. As I am sure you will be aware, last week the Prime Minister told Parliament that he expects to end all remaining Covid restrictions, including the legal requirement for anyone who tests positive to self-isolate. He intends to outline the government's strategy for 'living with Covid' when Parliament returns on Monday.

We understand that discussions are currently underway at the DfE, around what this might mean for education settings, including around issues such as attendance rules, vulnerable pupils and staff, including the provision of remote education. When we receive further information from the DfE we will communicate this with students and parents at the earliest opportunity.

Half-term Holiday

School will finish at 14:30 on Friday 18th February for the half-term break. Students will be expected to return to school on Monday 28th February.

Training Day

A reminder that school will be closed to pupils on Tuesday 1st March for a staff training day. This is an opportunity for students to take part in the local tradition of skipping on the beach!

National Cyber Security Centre CyberFirst Girls Competition

On Saturday our Year 8 CyberFirst Girls team attended the finals of the competition which was held in Barnsley. After all their hard work and effort I am delighted to say that they came second! This a huge accolade for the girls. Mrs Noon who has worked with the girls on the event commented that the girl's attitude throughout this competition has been excellent and they have represented the school in a very positive light.

Changes of Personal Details

To ensure that you receive the most up to date information relating to school life and so that we can contact you effectively. Please could I ask that you ensure you notify school when any of your family contact information changes, such as changes to phone numbers or address. Please email any changes to admin@sc.coastandvale.academy



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GCSE Examination Update

Currently staff are busy preparing Year 11 students for formal external examinations for the first time in two years. Last week exam boards published 'advance information' on their websites. This is subject by subject, specification by specification, specific outlines of the focus of questions across many of the summer exams. These materials are designed to make student exams and formal assessments less daunting this year taking account of all the disruption over the past two years.

Students will also get formulae sheets for GCSE maths exams and updated equation sheets for GCSE physics and combined science exams, so they won't have to memorise as much. As well as advance information and formulae sheets, students will be supported by more generous grading, which will provide a safety-net to protect them from just missing out on a grade.

We will be working hard with students over the next few weeks to ensure they are correctly prepared for these examinations.

Options Evening

Since Christmas our Year 8 students have been undertaking activities linked to the options process where they choose Key Stage 4 courses. Thursday 3rd March is our options evening. This provides students and parents the opportunity to discuss option choices with our Curriculum Leaders. The evening is running face to face in school from 17:00 to 19:00.

Attendance

The importance of good attendance at school is now more important than ever. To continue the catch-up work already being undertaken by our Curriculum Teams, it is vital students are in school. Clearly, where a student is too unwell to attend, they should remain at home. Similarly, where a student tests positive for Covid-19, they should self-isolate in accordance with government guidelines. However, it is crucial that students' absence is as limited as possible. For example, where a student has a medical appointment, we would only expect him/her to be absent for part of the day.

I hope as families you manage to enjoy some time together over the next week and we look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 28th February. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Mr C Robertson
Head of School