



19 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As we near the end of the first half term, I want to take the opportunity to thank you for all the support you have given to your child and the College. After all the challenges of the last 18 months, it has been wonderful to complete a full half term back in school, without bubbles or staggered starts! While we continue to take sensible Covid-19 precautions, school-life is becoming increasingly normalised.

Our students have made the start to the year so successful through their hard work, positive manner and community spirit. It has been lovely to witness some outstanding pieces of work, superb musical performances, sporting successes and acts of caring towards others. Community is special to us at Helston Community College and now is a good time to remind all members of our community of some of the basics that make our College a safe and pleasant place to be.

Getting the little things right allows us to focus on achieving the big successes that every student deserves when they leave Year 11 or Year 13 – the best exam grades they can achieve, a sense of confidence and the best life chances possible. We ask that you continue to support us in making this happen, by ensuring that your child meets the expectations below, every day.

### **Attendance & Punctuality**

Being in school is the first step to success. **You will shortly receive details of your child's attendance so far this academic year, together with an explanatory letter.**

### **Uniform**

Full details of our school uniform are available on our website. There have been no recent changes to this. It is important that your child be dressed in full school uniform every day. On the rare occasions when this is not possible, your child's Pastoral Support Assistant will be able to loan a clean replacement item for the day.

Unlike many schools, Helston Community College allows students to wear one nose stud, if they wish, alongside a stud in each ear lobe. No other piercings are permitted. Hairstyles which include hair dye of a non-natural colour, or any form of pattern shaved into the hair, are not permitted. Should your child currently have a piercing or hairstyle that does not meet our uniform policy, please ensure that this is corrected over the half term. After this, any students who do not meet the Uniform Policy will receive sanctions until this is corrected.

### **Mobile Telephones**

A reminder that mobile telephones are not to be visible during the school day. In an age of continual access to the Internet and social media, it is important that young people have a safe space away from this, as well as allowing them to focus on their learning and social skills. Mobile phones visible in school will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the day.

## **Covid-19 & Face Coverings**

Covid-19 rates continue to increase across Cornwall, with over half of new cases occurring in schools. In view of this, we have enclosed an "Important Notice" which includes information from Public Health Cornwall. This notice details steps that you and your child should take during the half term and when they return to school. Please read this carefully.

## **Medication**

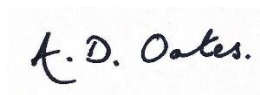
If your child requires medication during the school day, parents/carers must complete a form to authorise this. Please telephone the College Reception on 01326 572685 should you require this. Students are not permitted to carry medication, unless this is a prescribed inhaler or emergency medication of which the school is aware.

Thank you for your support in these important matters. Positive relationships between school and parents/carers matter at Helston Community College and provide the foundation for students' happiness and success. We welcome contact with you at any time and look forward to seeing more of you in person, as the Covid-19 situation improves.

As you are aware, a team of inspectors from OFSTED visited the College for two days last week. We look forward to receiving their feedback and will share this with you in due course.

We wish you an enjoyable half term break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. D. Oates." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

**Andrew Oates**  
**Senior Assistant Headteacher**