

1 April 2021



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Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your support through this difficult term. As a school community we have all worked very hard to ensure that our young people have had a positive experience through lockdown 3. It has been great to see the students back; the school once again feels like it should, with the voices of students filling the corridors. I hope that you can enjoy your Easter break with some lifted restrictions allowing us to meet up with more people.

We will continue to work in line with the guidance to ensure that students and staff feel safe as we move into the summer term. We will start to reintroduce our normal systems with regard to uniform and lunch timings without impacting on home circumstances. It is important that our high expectations are maintained as we focus on learning and well-being.

Testing at home throughout the Easter holidays

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme, it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term.

The guidance states that we must advise all parents/carers to:

- test [twice a week at home](#) from now on (all those who are able to)
- report results [online](#) as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping us to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country
- continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays
- test before returning to school for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, the first day back, to find and isolate any positive cases

Students will be provided with enough tests for the Easter holidays. Tests will be distributed to students today. You must also complete this [form](#) to notify the school of the test result. If you receive a positive result over the Easter holidays, please email admin@pilton.college so that we can notify any close contacts.

Uniform and Equipment Expectations

The current arrangements remain the same until May half term. Students can wear their PE Kit or the summer uniform. **Grey tracksuit bottoms, grey leggings or hoodies (other than the royal blue PE hoody) are not part of our PE kit and therefore should not be worn at any time.** After half term, students should wear PE kit only on days that they have PE lessons. At all other times they will need to be in summer school uniform. Students that do not follow these expectations should expect to lose their social time or receive an afterschool detention. School uniform expectations can be found [here](#).

Future Off-Site Visits/Trips

As you will be aware, the Covid pandemic has had an enormous impact on the trips and residential visits that we organise to enrich teaching and learning. At present the latest advice from the DfE is that day trips cannot take place any earlier than 12th April 2021. With residential trips within England allowed from 17th May, overseas trips are still to be decided. With guidance changing regularly we do hope to be able to reinstate some of our planned trips/residentials. We will of course keep you updated and provide as much notice as possible of any forthcoming opportunities. For those of you that would like to take up these options when guidance permits, we suggest that families put a little money by each month so that no-one is disadvantaged if trips can be run at short notice.

We wish you a safe and restful Easter.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Hill', written in a cursive style.

Mr Graham Hill
Headteacher