19th November 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

We have been operating our revised school day times since the start of term, and generally this has been working well. As you are aware, we have kept all year groups in their own ‘bubbles’, with staggered starts, breaks, lunches and dismissals.

The number of confirmed COVID cases, and students and staff needing to self-isolate, is lower than in many schools, and we have had no in-school infections, so our strategy for keeping everyone safe appears to be robust thus far.

However, we have identified areas for improvement in our current arrangements. For example, some of our students have very short Period 1 lessons and three of our year groups have no time whatsoever with their form tutor, who should be at the forefront of managing their pastoral needs and ensuring their wellbeing in school. Also, critically, as we approach the onset of winter and with temperatures dropping, we have decided to reduce the hour-long outside break by 15 minutes. Many local schools have already reduced their lunchbreaks to 30 minutes in some cases. This change will not reduce the time the students get to eat their lunches and the ‘bubble’ rota will remain as it is – however the time the girls must spend outside will be reduced.

This will mean some changes to the start and end of the school day, from Monday 23 November – as follows:

**Revised start of day timings:**

Year 7: **8.20** start for 8.30 line up

Year 8: **8.30** start for 8.40 line up

Year 9: **8.40** start for 8.50 line up

Year 11: **9.20** start for 9.30 line up

Year 10: **9.30** start for 9.40 line up

Please ensure that your daughter arrives at school by the time indicated in bold as we will be recommencing late detentions from the week beginning 30th November.

**Revised end of day timings:**

Year 7: **3.05** MUGA

Year 8: **3.15** Student Gate

Year 9: **3.15** MUGA

Year 10: **3.20** MUGA (**Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri**), **3.40** (**Tues**)

Year 11: **3.20** Student Gate (**Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri**), **3.40** (Wed), week A only **2.15**

Yours faithfully,



Ms M Davies

Headteacher