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Headteacher: Mr K Hirst Executive Headteacher: Mr T Croft - BEd

Our Reference: KH/GHR

24th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As we progress through the busy Autumn term, I am writing to update on a number of aspects. Despite the current restrictions in school and beyond, life does continue with some familiarity. Students have adapted well to the change in the school day which involves them moving to subject areas, using the one-way system and adhering to rules such as the wearing of face coverings and regular hand-washing/sanitising. Last week Year 11 students completed their mock exams. It is worth noting that the approach and maturity demonstrated by this year group was exemplary throughout the mock exam period. They were a credit to the school. Mock exams are in the process of being marked to allow next steps to be identified. I hope you have seen the latest edition of *Brookfield News* which provides more detail of what has been happening in school this term.

We have received encouraging news regarding extra-curricular activity. Latest DfE guidance indicates that schools can start to introduce more extra-curricular activity than is possible at present. From January we will be looking at extending opportunities for students beyond the classroom and more information will follow next term.

INSET Day – Monday 30th November – a reminder that school is closed for all students on this date.

Whiteboard Packs – to support teaching and learning within the classroom, all students are being provided with an individual wallet containing a mini-whiteboard and marker pen that will be used in lessons to allow teachers to readily check understanding. I would be grateful if you could ensure that your child brings this pack to school each day as part of their essential equipment.

Student Attendance – whole school attendance is currently 94.9%. This is significantly above the current national average. Having good levels of attendance, especially during this time, suggests that our students and families understand the importance of education and have a good attitude to learning. Thank you for your ongoing support.

REDHILL ACADEMY TRUST

Year 11 Parents' Evening (Thursday 10th December) – while we are unable to invite parents into school for parents' evening, we will be trialling an online video platform for this important event. More details will be provided to parents of Year 11 students about how to make appointments and speak with teachers about students' progress.

Parent Consultation – we are keen to continue to build opportunities for greater communication between school and parents. The date for the next Parent Forum meeting will be held between 6.00pm and 7.00pm on **Thursday 10th December 2020**. Note that this will be an online event run using Microsoft Teams. Please can you notify my PA, Mrs Gillian Rhodes, on <u>G.Rhodes@brookfieldcs.org.uk</u> by Friday 4th December 2020 if you wish to attend or add any items to the agenda. Please note that the number for this forum will be limited to 25 and invitation links will be provided to parents on 'first come, first served' basis.

COVID-19 - our students are coping well with rules designed to limit transmission of the virus. Thank you for your support with this important aspect and in reinforcing expectations. Can I draw your attention to the 'COVID-19 Information Centre' on our school website, where we have provided lots of information and resources regarding COVID-19 and how we can all support the measures to limit transmission. The section can be found <u>here</u>. A reminder of some important points:

- If students or family members develop COVID symptoms, they should self-isolate and book a test. They should stay at home until the test result arrives.
- Students should <u>not be sent to school</u> if any member of the household has symptoms and has booked a test or is awaiting a test result.
- If the test result is positive, the person must self-isolate for 10 days. Other members of the household should self-isolate for 14 days <u>from the date of symptoms</u>.

Further information can be found <u>here</u>.

Extending very best wishes to you all.

Yours faithfully

AUD

Mr K Hirst <u>Headteacher</u>