

22 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

October Half Term Update

This half term has been a very busy and successful one even under the constraints of the Coronavirus pandemic. School life has thrived and the students have responded extremely positively to the restrictions regarding their movement around the school and the staggered movement times that we have had to put in place to maintain the year group bubbles.

Blended Learning has launched this term and if your child has been isolating at home you will be aware of how it works. Teachers are now live broadcasting their lessons so that students isolating at home can join their normal timetabled lessons virtually alongside their peers in the classroom. This is working very effectively as long as the child at home is organised and punctual to their lessons (as they would be in school) and does depend on parental encouragement, support and supervision to enable maximum engagement. See the Trust's [Learning from home at CST](#) guide for more information.

What to do if...

1. My child is sick: Phone the school absence line on 020 7473 7548 before 8:00am each day with an explanation of your child's absence. See [Reporting absence if your child is sick](#) for additional information.
2. My child has forgotten [how to access lessons from home](#)
3. My child has forgotten their login information for their school RM Unify account: email contact@cumberlandcst.org asking for their google username and password stating your child's full name and tutor group and we will send your child the information they need.

I wrote to you last week about the use of face masks in school following the government's decision to move the London area into a 'High Alert' tier. Schools are now required to ensure that children and staff wear face coverings in communal areas such as corridors. This does not apply in lessons and does not apply to students or staff who have medical exemptions. Wearing a face mask in lesson time will remain optional for staff and students. It is not mandatory.

Please ensure your child always comes to school with a face mask after the half term break. It now has to be part of the uniform/equipment expectation we have of the students. Please accept my apologies for the short notice. As I said in my last letter the situation is fast-moving and communication between the government and schools is not always as clear as it could be in the midst of this pandemic.

I would also like to remind you that students must not have facial or body jewellery (this includes nose studs/rings), unnatural hair colour, tattoos and false nail extensions. Make-up must be modest and

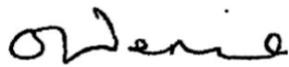
discreet and earrings must be small plain studs, a matching pair or single. Students must also wear a plain navy blue or black coat. [See uniform policy](#)

Finally, to ensure you keep abreast of all the school's news updates, events and activities, please check the school web page regularly at www.cumberlandcst.org where we also have our new promotional video on our homepage and don't forget to follow us on social media
Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/CumberlandSchoolE13/>
Twitter - [@cumberlande13](https://twitter.com/cumberlande13)

You can also read our most up-to-date school newsletters including our special exams edition of the famous Magnificent Seven which was captured nationally in the papers and on social media.

Thank you for your ongoing support, I wish you and your families a safe and happy half term.

Yours sincerely



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