

Dear Parents and Carers,

September protocols

Our first line of defences to reduce infection risks are:

1. Hand washing (as students leave their homes, before period 1 when they arrive in college, at breaktime, at lunchtime, at the end of the day as they leave and once more when they get home again).
2. Respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin it, kill it). Students must all bring tissues (or handkerchiefs that are washed daily) and if they run out to sneeze or cough into their elbow not their hands.
3. Not touching eyes, noses or mouths.
4. Students must wear masks if travelling by public transport, school buses or taxis.
5. Social distancing as much as possible.
6. Ventilation e.g. doors and windows will be kept open as much as possible.
7. Regular cleaning / disinfection of surfaces. Our caretaking team and cleaning team will do this regularly. However, students will have to disinfect and wipe down their own tables and chairs after each lesson.
8. Arrangements to keep students in year group 'bubbles' (year timetables, separate lunch queues, separate canteen tills, separate zones outside etc.).
9. Every year group will have their own 'garden' area outside and their own year group section of the lower playing field (while that is open in the Autumn). They must keep to these at lunchtime and breaktime. There will also be separate zones on the All Weather Pitch for students to play football. This is the only place where students can play football, so any student wishing to play football must bring their own suitable boots for the AWP.

Our second line of defences to reduce infection risks are:

1. Testing. Any student who has symptoms or has been recommended to be tested should do so as soon as possible.
2. Track and Trace.
3. Self-isolation as directed by Health professionals / the College.

We know how much everyone wants to ensure that Public Health do not close either year groups or the whole college at any point in the next academic year, so please ensure your children adhere strictly to the above protocols and habits e.g. good hand and respiratory hygiene should be a habit for life.

Student organisation and safer classrooms in September

Further to my recent message to you all about all the steps we are taking to minimise infection in Sep (e.g. year group bubbles), please read this more detailed document about classroom practice. [Covid-19 and classroom teaching.](#) Students will be expected to be well organised and bring all the necessary things they need for school e.g. pens, glue stick, calculators etc. Please impress upon them the importance of such organisation. Thank you.

The Drive

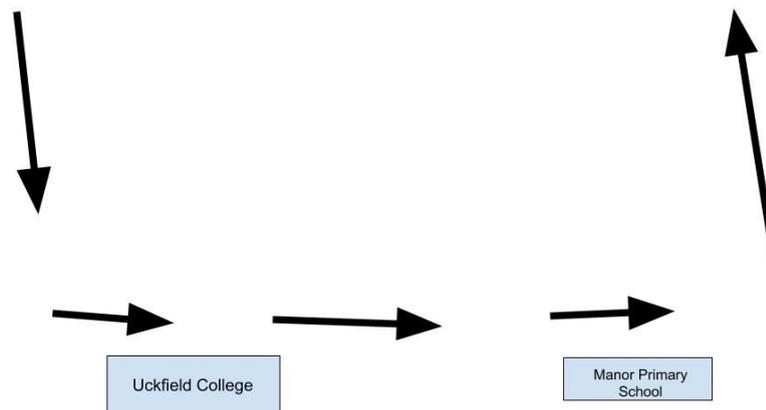
The main student entrance will now be at the top of the College Drive. Students will cross the drive to access this. To keep them safe, no cars, minibuses or taxis carrying students will be permitted to enter the driveway nor the car parks lower down whether for drop off or pick up. Students will not need to go down the drive anyway as the entrance to the college

will only be a few steps from Downsview Crescent. There will certainly be no stopping or pulling in permitted by the Main Entrance because:

1. There will be a zebra crossing there for students
2. There will be no 3 point turns permitted so close to T junction and the traffic coming in from Downsview Crescent
3. The paved area to the Main Entrance will only be built for foot traffic, so no vehicles allowed.

We recommend that parents bringing students to / from College either:

- A. Ideally, drop / pick up students half a mile away from the site. A short walk will be good for their health.
- B. Failing that (e.g. if you are very late), drive in an anticlockwise direction arriving at the College travelling East along Downsview Crescent, drop your children and then carry on Eastwards and go back around via Browns Lane. This 'one way system' will make a huge difference to:
 - a. Student safety
 - b. Reducing traffic congestion
 - c. Improving everyone's journey times
 - d. Enabling buses and coaches to make their journeys.



- C. Students with disabilities will be dropped off on Downsview Crescent as close as possible to the Main Entrance and walk down, so parents of able bodied students should be considerate and not stop near the Drive entrance. There will be disabled parking for the new building but that won't be built and ready until the old Science block is demolished and the new car park built, which won't be until Autumn 2021.

Please be aware that if we don't all either drop off / pick up half a mile away and / or keep to a one way system, standstill congestion and serious accidents are a real probability.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Students travelling on school buses will enter the new College from the North East coach park as they currently do.

Students walking up from Uckfield Town Centre will be expected to walk all the way up Lime Tree Avenue to Downsview Crescent, cross the Drive and then enter the College there and use the same route at the end of the day. The only exception will be students finishing the day in Art, History, the Leisure Centre or the PE / Small Animal Care classroom in the Eco Garden who will enter Lime Tree Avenue by the ACRES house and go into Uckfield as they currently do.

Student Leadership Team

Congratulations to our two new Head Students:

Lucy Meacher and Charles Mack.

They will be very well supported by our two new Deputy Head Students:

Jess Molesworth and Freddy Crisp.

Below is the full list of our Sixth Form student leadership team:

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|---|--------------------|
| Head Student | Charles Mack |
| Head Student | Lucy Meacher |
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| Deputy Head Student | Freddy Crisp |
| Deputy Head Student | Jess Molesworth |
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| Assistant Head - Careers/ Academic | Owen McSherry |
| Assistant Head - Careers/Academic | Milly Lambert |
| Assistant Head - Charity | Lily-Mae Gauntlett |
| Assistant Head - Environment | Isobel Bartlett |
| Assistant Head - Media | Lily Larkin |
| Assistant Head - Peer Mentoring | Alana Severn |
| Assistant Head - Social/Extra-curricular | Molly Dunn |
| Assistant Head - Sport | Ellie Goldsmith |
| Assistant Head - Wellbeing (1) | Jacob Somner |
| Assistant Head - Wellbeing (2) | Lucy Wainwright |
| Assistant Head - Wider Engagement | Rosie Newman |
| Assistant Head - Diversity and Equality | Freya Johns |
| | |
| Senior Prefect - Careers/Academic | Lorna Birkby |
| Senior Prefect - Careers/Academic | Zak Robertson |
| Senior Prefect - Charity | Emma Christmas |
| Senior Prefect - Environment | Joss Pope |
| Senior Prefect - Media | Louis Gibson |
| Senior Prefect - Peer Mentoring | Bethany Best |
| Senior Prefect - Social-Extra-curricular | Joshua Christian |
| Senior Prefect - Sport | Katie Cawley |

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|---|-----------------|
| Senior Prefect - Wellbeing | Marvella Horthy |
| Senior Prefect - Wider Engagement | Saif Ullah |
| Senior Prefect - Diversity and Equality | tbc |

We were extremely impressed by all the applicants this year. They spoke so genuinely about their pride in the college and they are all so overwhelmingly positive about the experiences they have had here. Throughout the selection process, the Year 12 students' leadership qualities shone through. We all feel so confident that they will make a real difference to the lives of our students in all year groups in the coming year.

There will be new student leaders in all (Y7-12) year groups next year. The positions will be for the same areas as the Y13s. For example, there will be student leaders for Sport in Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, student leaders for Environment in each year group, student leaders for Wellbeing in all year groups etc.

So, students in Years 7-12 should apply to their Director of Year for these positions of responsibility in September.

Celebration Evenings and Certificates / Prizes

At this time of year we would normally have celebrated the success of your child, and others in their year group, during our annual year group celebration evenings. We will not be deterred by these exceptional circumstances because we know recognising and celebrating success is very important for our students and you, our parents.

Our Directors of Year have been busy this week, preparing celebration presentations for their Year Group and recording their own words of celebration. These celebration presentations will be shared with you on Monday 20th July and we would love for you to watch this with your child during the evening.

We are also preparing our celebration certificates which we will email to your child. We hope that all certificates will have all been emailed out by the end of Tuesday 21st, so please do ask your child to show you theirs.

Well done to all the students for their great achievements!

Keeping up with learning

We know how much hard work so many students have done while we have had lockdown. They should be reassured that they have made better progress than the average student nationally due to our 'real time, remote learning'. There is further reassurance that there will be lots of extra sessions for students to further help them consolidate their learning and secure their understanding next year. However, for the small number of students who haven't been good independent learners and done all the work they were given during lockdown, they should not delude themselves that any extra teaching sessions next year will be a 'magic solution'. Those students with weak independent learning habits are likely to be the ones who forget to go to any help they are offered. Any students who haven't done what they should have done during lockdown should go back through their Google Classroom and work their way through key activities during the summer holidays, doing an hour a day. For all the students who have done their best with real time, remote learning, they should enjoy the summer break after all their efforts.

Our new College culture

As we move into the new buildings and return from lockdown, we will be further improving and transforming our culture. All the staff in Uckfield College are looking forward to working with you all to achieve this together.

Our plans for September

1. 3 Inset days
 - a. Thu 3 Sep - unpack and set up classrooms, offices etc.
 - b. Fri 4 Sep - our new college culture
 - c. Mon 7 Sep - normal Sep Inset day
2. [First two days of term](#) for students (Y7, 11 & 12 - Tues 8th and all years 7 to 13 - Wed 9th Sep). Please follow the link for more details.
3. Arrangements for health and safety as we open fully in September (cleaning, ventilation, first aid, hygiene, reducing contacts and maximising distances, test, track & trace etc)
4. Arrangements to keep students in year group 'bubbles' (year timetables, separate lunch queues, separate canteen tills, separate zones outside etc.).
5. Individual adjustments for highly vulnerable staff and students
6. Normal timetable for all students
7. Assessment for Learning, Personalised Learning Checklists and AfL shaping teaching and learning
8. Exams for Y11, 12 and 10
9. Interventions / tuition
10. Pastoral support

Financial impact of the pandemic

We are very aware that there will be more families facing financial difficulties as a result of being furloughed or being made redundant. We have always had a confidential system to support families with costs such as uniform, equipment or school trips. That system is that parents should contact the Pastoral Leader for their year group and the Finance Team. We would strongly advise parents who are eligible to apply for Free School Meals as that will not only assist with your child's nutritional needs but also enable the College to access funding to support things like uniform. It is also important that any parent struggling with the cost of uniform should contact the Pastoral Leader as soon as possible.

Fun video

And finally, we created the following fun video for students. For it to make sense you probably need to watch the original video first (unless you are a massive Eurovision fan and are completely up to speed with the zeitgeist :)).

Dear students,

We want to say:

- 1. Well done for working hard on your Real Time Remote Learning*
- 2. We miss you and are really looking forward to seeing you all in September*
- 3. Keep working, reading, learning, revising and thinking*

We've made a video for you:

[Uckfield College Think about things You Tube link](#)

which is our homage to:

[Iceland's Eurovision entry](#)

*Keep going with your learning and enjoy your summer holiday when it starts next week,
From all the staff at Uckfield College*

Wishing you all a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing all of you in the autumn.
Warmest regards,

Hugh Hennebry
Principal