

15th October 2021

Dear Parents and carers

I hope you have had a good week. It was wonderful to see so many of our students playing sport against other schools on Tuesday after school. Congratulations to both our netball and football teams.

LEAD Day – Learning, Enrichment and Development

We are very much looking forward to the first of five LEAD days of this academic year. This is taking place on Monday 18th October and we have lots of different activities and sessions planned for our students. Information about this has been emailed to you. LEAD day is 'Learning, Enrichment and Development' day, where we give all of our students the opportunity to develop broader skills and undertake study into the wider areas of the school curriculum such as Personal, Social, Health Education, Careers and Enterprise, Religion and Relationships and Sex Education. This is a statutory element of our Key Stage 3 and 4 curriculum so it is essential that students attend. Full school uniform must be worn. School will start and finish as normal. You can see details of the PSHE curriculum on our website: [P.S.H.E. - Hope Valley College \(hopevalley-chorustrust.org\)](https://hopevalley-chorustrust.org)

As part of our wider activity next week we would like to collect food donations as part of Year 9's work around charity. We welcome donations of any long-lasting food items that we can donate to local charities, groups and foodbanks. Any donation would be gratefully received and we are asking all young people, if possible, to donate 1 item.

COVID

We are seeing an increase in positive cases of COVID in Key Stage 3, particularly in Year 8 and Year 9, where we have 16 new cases this week. Please continue to be vigilant about lateral flow testing. Students have been given boxes of Lateral Flow Tests to bring home today. We would encourage students to test every day during the week leading up to half term. We continue to stress the importance of hand hygiene, our one-way system and ventilation. We are talking to our Public Health team about the need to return to face masks in school.

We have attached more information about processes to follow, should your young person develop symptoms.

If your child is at home and well enough to work from home, please access the Virtual School page and follow the links to the work set. This work has been mapped to our curriculum in school so that students can follow the same content as those in school. Most of the work involves assessment or work to be completed which can be shared with the teacher through TEAMS. The links to do this appear at the of the lessons so students must work their way through the lessons. Please direct students to their teachers if they need further support. Our best wishes to all our community for a speedy recovery.

Vaccinations

Mop up vaccinations for ages 12-15 are available during the half term break at Newholme Hospital in Bakewell and at the mass vaccination site on Midland Road in Derby.

Places are limited, and lines will close when all slots are filled. Please call the number below to make an appointment.

The call centre will be open from 9.30am – 4.30pm on weekdays until all slots are taken. Please call 01773 525100

October half term clinics

Tuesday	26th October	PM	Derby, Midland House
Wednesday	27th October	PM	Derby, Midland House
Thursday	28th October	PM	Newholme Hospital, Bakewell
Sunday	31st October	All day	Derby, Midland House

Year 11 Mock Exams

In anticipation of a return to external exams for GCSE and other qualifications, we have prepared a two week period of mock examinations, which will be held in exam conditions. Over the next few weeks, we will support our Key Stage 4 students to prepare for these important assessments. As parents and carers, you will want to reassure your young people about the importance of these assessments but also that teachers will ensure they are fully prepared. The Year 11 November mock exam timetable has been emailed to parents and students this afternoon. This also includes a video link which covers instructions to candidates ahead of an examination series.

Thank you for reading our communication. Here are some helpful email addresses, should you need to contact us:-

- attendance@hopevalley.chorustrust.org to report a child's absence
- enquiries@hopevalley.chorustrust.org for general enquiries
- pastoral@hopevalley.chorustrust.org for any issue with a child's wellbeing
- principal@hopevalley.chorustrust.org to contact the Principal
- safeguarding@hopevalley.chorustrust.org to report safeguarding concerns. If a child or any young person is in imminent danger, then please report this to the police.

Kind regards