



Dear Student

1 March 2021

We are really looking forward to having everyone back in school very soon. Despite the challenges that the lockdown has brought, it has been wonderful to see such brilliant engagement with remote learning and such positive attitudes from you all.

You are in a fantastic position when you return to school. Irrelevant of how much work you have completed, your teachers will be planning to ensure you make good progress when you're back in the classrooms.

We have a fundamental belief that schools work best when there are routines and high expectations. This fits across all areas of school life. It should come as no surprise that we expect you to demonstrate that you can meet all of our usual expectations when you return. The main reminders we would like you to ensure you are able to meet are as follows:

- Being in school by 8:45am and being punctual to all lessons
- Have all equipment you need to learn and take part – the basic equipment you require is a blue/black pen, a pencil, a ruler, an eraser and a calculator
- Wear the correct school uniform with pride – particularly important to remember:
 - o Footwear must be smart and in line with the uniform policy – black trainers, including Nike Air Force Ones, are not permitted
 - o Jewellery is not permitted, except for one small piercing in each ear. Any other piercings will be confiscated
- Mobile phones are not allowed to be used in school, except for during break and lunch when sat down. Any breaches of this rule will lead to confiscation of the device. This also applies to headphones and Air Pods.

We hope that this set of reminders will be helpful so that you are able to meet the expectations of The Castle School when you return. If you have any worries about not having certain pieces of uniform, please let us know and we will work with you and your family to arrange a plan.

We also know that the lockdown period and also the return to school may have caused some personal challenges for some of you. Please remember that there are plenty of people in school who are able to support you as needed, including your tutor, Head of House, Mrs Horsley or anyone in the Pastoral Hub. If you'd prefer to email, contact us on wellbeingsupport@castle.somerset.sch.uk and someone will get back to you.

To keep us all as safe as possible when we return, you will still be following the one-way system that was in place last term. Facemasks will need to be worn when you are inside any building, including during your lessons. Therefore, please make sure you have at least one facemask with you every day. Please be reassured that we will working hard to ensure everyone feels as safe as possible.

We cannot wait to get everyone back in and getting one step closer to 'normal'.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Wordsworth
Deputy Headteacher