

28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support since our return after the second lockdown. Our students have been through a very trying time and it is by working together as a community that we can start to rebuild and recover from the pandemic.

With this in mind I would like to impress the importance of regular school attendance as we have noticed an increase in non-Covid related absence and along with this a decrease in the number of parents and carers calling the school absence line or providing medical notes and appointment slips.

With so much lost learning already we are conscious that further absence could prove problematic and impact significantly on educational outcomes - especially in relation to end of year internal assessments that are planned to be completed in the final half term of the year. There is plenty of evidence of a positive correlation of higher academic achievement alongside good school attendance. Regular school attendance is important in order for students to reach their full potential. Our expectation is that everyone should strive for 100%, although we understand that this may not always be achievable. However, we would expect attendance for each child to be at least 96% over the course of the academic year - 96% would mean 7.5 days absence in a year.

Can we also use this opportunity to remind all about the expectations with uniform. On the whole pupils present well and to a high standard. This is what we do at Pembroke. If you are already thinking about September 2021 and uniform please ensure you don't leave it until last minute. We have sent a letter out previously from Uniform Direct to support parents with this process.

Regarding PE kit, we have worked hard over the years to improve the kit. We ask for your support regarding students wearing hoodies. Until the end of this academic year students will only be allowed to wear a jumper/ hoodie if it is plain navy blue (no other colour, no logos, no stripes etc.). As of September the only hoodie students will be allowed to wear will be the Pembroke PE Hoodie to be purchased from Uniform Direct.

We wish you a safe half term and look forward to welcoming the pupils back on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Evans <u>Headteacher</u>



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