



# Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

*Striving for Excellence*

Acting Principal • Mr Rhys Phillips

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18<sup>th</sup> June, 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

June the 18<sup>th</sup> has been a key date in the school calendar this year as it represents the day in which all Teacher Assessed Grades must be submitted to our Examination Boards. I would like to pay tribute today not only to the students that have engaged with the process so well over the last few months, but also the staff within our school. I cannot emphasise enough how proud I am of the Newent team who have undertaken this task with exceptional care, diligence and professionalism to ensure our students receive objective and fair grades this Summer. The additional workload and weight of responsibility that has been placed upon school staff all over the country cannot be underestimated. My sincere thanks to all involved in the process.

As has become fairly routine over the last year, Monday's announcement regarding the delayed easing of lockdown measures across the country has required us to revisit our plans for a number of events planned for over the next few weeks. Throughout the Covid pandemic we have been forced to make difficult decisions based upon evolving information and have always placed the wellbeing of our school community at the heart of our decision making processes. Unfortunately, in the same manner as my predecessor in this role, I must again ask that all members of our school community seek resolution on any concerns they may have directly with the school, and allow an appropriate period for a response to be provided, prior to posting commentary on social media sites.

One of the measures that we have put in place within the school to support continued attendance is our involvement in the Daily Contact Testing Clinical Trial. Please find below a message from the Clinical Trial Team.

*As we are coming into our 9th week and drawing ever closer to completing the trial, I wanted to emphasise again how essential the element of data is to the success or failure of the trial that we have been taking part in. Data comes in the form of twice-weekly PCR tests being returned, parent surveys about testing at home, questionnaires about the trial, Positive case incidences and so on.*

***Please could we ask for as many parents as possible to complete the below 2-minute questionnaire on mass testing:***

**[Qualtrics Survey | Qualtrics Experience Management](#)**

*Every piece is important and helps us form a complete picture in understanding how this trial is working. We remain grateful for your ongoing commitment and are thankful for your persistence in helping find an alternative to self-isolation for our country in the future.*

As term draws to a close, we're already looking ahead to September. Our uniform providers Gooch Sports (Newent) and Monkhouse (formerly Trutex in Gloucester) are working hard to make sure that despite the challenges posed by international shipping, Covid and Brexit, our parents will be able to find everything they need.

This is a reminder that the best way to ensure your child has all the uniform they need in good time for the start of the school year is to shop early, if this is possible for you.

Both of our uniform suppliers are operating an online ordering service via their websites:

Gooch Sports - [School Uniform Shop | Sportswear Shop & Equipment - School Uniform Supplier - Newent Gloucestershire \(goochsports.com\)](#)

Monkhouse - [Monkhouse Schoolwear, Monkhouse Intersport, F.R.Monkhouse Ltd, Top Form Schoolwear](#)

Alternatively, parents are able to book appointments to visit the shop:

Gooch Sports - [Schedule Appointment with Gooch Sports \(acuityscheduling.com\)](#)

Monkhouse - [Store Appointments \(monkhouse.com\)](#)

We would recommend booking an appointment in July or early August. In addition, you are able to register for news on stock update and special offers from Monkhouse if this is of interest to you [here](#)

As part of a national campaign, Marcus Rashford MBE and Henry Dimbleby MBE are working with the Food Foundation to help promote the Government's new Holiday Activities and Food programme. A letter can be found [here \(DOCX, 15.6 KB\)](#) from Marcus Rashford MBE and Henry Dimbleby MBE who are asking Headteachers to send it on to parents and carers, and particularly those of children who qualify for free school meals. The aim is to make sure schools and parents are aware of their local schemes and that parents take the opportunity to sign their child or children up to the programme this summer. For more details and a promotional film, please see the link in the letter.

Again I am delighted to end my weekly letter with news of our students' sporting achievements. Last night Mr Britten and Mr Edgell supported our Yr 7 and Yr 8 cricket teams in matches against King's School. Mr Britten with the Yr 7 students reports '*a great effort from the boys who had a number of experienced club cricketers missing from their squad, plus half a dozen boys making their competitive cricket debuts. Special shout out to Ayaan Ali who survived the whole innings scoring over 30 runs in the process, and Herbie Simpson who made an excellent captain*'. Mr Edgell reports, '*Bowled King's U13 out for 119. Some great bowling with wickets from 7 of our 8 bowlers. Special mention to Oli Curtis who took 4 wickets for 18 runs. Our batters played some great cricket and we chased down this score winning by 5 wickets in the 19th over. Runs from Ryan, Hassan and Isaac helping us over the winning line. Big thanks to Newent cricket club for allowing us to use their facilities.*'

With best wishes for the weekend,



Rhys Phillips  
Acting Principal