



**Principal:** Dr Katharine Vincent

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you and your families are keeping well during this time. Please find below some updates about the work of the school.

### Care Certificate initiative for Health and Science students

Barts Health NHS Trust have begun delivering the Level 2 Care Certificate to a group of 14 enthusiastic Health and Social Care and Science students. On completion of the course, students will have a broader understanding of the care standards and experience in a variety of clinical skills e.g. changing a dressing, making a hospital bed and taking a blood pressure reading. This is a very exciting opportunity for our students and we are grateful to staff from Barts for making it possible.

### Parent governor election

As explained in my previous letter, we are looking for two parents to become parent governors. The deadline for nominations is Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Please do consider putting yourself forward for this important role. If you have any questions about the role of parent governor, please contact the school by email [info@mulberryutc.org](mailto:info@mulberryutc.org).

### Second set of mock exams

Those students in Year 11 and Year 13 who are taking examinations at the end of this year will sit mock exams starting on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February. Please encourage students to use their time wisely in the run-up to these mock exams. Students should be undertaking at least two hours a day of study outside of lessons and should, by this point, have created revision timetables mapping out how they will spend their time over the two terms, to ensure they achieve the best possible grades.

### End of February half term

The last day of this half term will be Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February. School will finish at the normal time of 2.10pm on that day and lessons will continue as usual up to the half term break. The school will then be closed during w/c Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February, apart from some intervention sessions taking place for invited students in specific subject areas. School will resume as normal on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

### Face-masks

As explained in my letter earlier this week, we are no longer requiring students to wear masks in lessons. We would, however, like to encourage students and staff to continue to wear face-masks in



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corridors and other parts of the school building. We believe this is a sensible approach as we seek to minimise the number of Covid-19 cases within our school and the local community.

### **Lateral flow testing**

Please continue to test twice weekly at home. Any students who are a close contact of a confirmed case should test every day for 7 days while continuing to attend school as normal. Students and staff should report results immediately online: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

### **Changes to requirements for confirmatory PCR tests**

As you will be aware, the government have temporarily removed the requirement for a confirmatory PCR test following a positive lateral flow test result. Anyone who receives a positive lateral flow test should assume they are infectious and isolate in line with government guidance. They can then return to school or work after day 5, as long as they have two negative test results 24 hours apart.

### **Open Evening – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Our next face to face Open Evening will take place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March at Mulberry UTC 4.30-6.30pm. Please encourage current Year 11 students to attend and please share the date with any friends or family who you know are interested in joining the school next year.

Thank you for all your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K Vincent

**Principal**