



# PRINCIPAL'S DAILY BULLETIN

Bulletin for Year 13

The rule of 6 in the Main Dining area.

*Why?*

You will have noticed that I have been on duty each day in your dining area.

I have been observing your behaviour to inform how to make this communal space as safe a space as possible for you.

But also how to make this communal space comply with government requirements.

Their main requirement is that a 2 metre social distance is respected, wherever possible.

So on Monday 21st September, I spent the Inset day with our two Covid 19 Safety Champions ensuring the dining tables are at a safe 2 metre distance apart.

These are dining tables. This is a dining area. The maximum group the government say can dine together is 6. This is one reason the maximum group size in the area has been set at 6.

Another is that 6 also complies with the rule of 6 introduced by the government on Monday 14th September. The local police force have contacted us and asked us to help you to practice this rule in College, so that a group of 6 or less becomes habit, because if you break this rule outside of College, you face an initial fine of £200, which can rise to £3200 for subsequent breaks of the rule.

I agree with those of you who have told me that 6 is an arbitrary number but this is the number the government have chosen.

It is also a number that helps us to minimise self- isolation.

If a student tests positive for Covid 19 all close contacts have to self- isolate for 14 days. A close contact is someone who has spent more than 15 minutes at less than 2 metres from the student who has tested positive. This is everyone who sits at a dining table with them in the 45 minute lunch break for more than 15 minutes.

A maximum group of 6 limits self-isolation for 14 days to a maximum of 5 other students. And it helps us to identify these 5 other students quickly and easily.

From Monday 28th September, and coinciding with the new timetable, you will be able to sit at any dining table in the main dining area with up to a maximum of 5 friends.

You will be asked to find another table, if there is more than 6 at a table.

Whilst you might find this frustrating, I expect your support with this for the important reasons outlined above. As responsible young adults, I expect you to give us this support, willingly and co-operatively.

I am also asking that you be considerate of others. If you or your friends are not dining, and the dining area is busy, please move on to the classroom for your next lesson (this will be open), to the LRC or to a Study Hub, if you do not have a lesson, and you want to sit quietly to read or listen to music, or outside. This frees up space for those wanting to dine.

And finally, this is a seated area, and you must be seated at a dining table, eating and/or drinking, to remove your face mask. You must put this on again when on the move to your next destination.

Thank you for your support with the rule of 6. It will enable you to enjoy a safe lunch break at the College.

Angela

