



NEWSLETTER

No. 694
w/c Mon 14 December
will be Week B

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

“Empower yourselves with a good education, then get out there and use that education to build a country worthy of your boundless promise.” Michelle Obama

Evenings and weekends – reporting of Covid-19 positive test results

As a further precaution, we have introduced a dedicated phone number, solely for reporting positive Covid-19 test results at evenings and weekends.

The number is:

07818 212 931

It is not for suspected cases, non-Covid-19 illness or absence, and is not an advice line.

We would prefer you to text positive Covid-19 test result information to this number, including:

Name of student

Student’s tutor group

Date symptoms appeared

Date of test

Date of test result

If necessary, someone will contact you having received this information. Thank you!

Dear Parents and Carers

The Last Week of Term

Please refer to the letter I sent to you yesterday via the Gateway. My first choice would have been a week’s remote learning – if it’s all right for FE Colleges, Wales, and now apparently Eton College, it should be all right for schools – with an “ECP” provision as in the summer; but the government’s Coronavirus Act put paid to that. It also put paid to my second preference, which would have been giving parents a free option of withdrawing children. So, to restate the last point of my letter yesterday, “we respect your right as a parent or carer to weigh up the balance of risks, and make the decision to withdraw your child for a few days, or not.

We cannot breach government guidance and give you our approval, but we can assure you that it will not be held against you or your child in future". If your child's attendance is otherwise good, we won't even send a warning letter, and you won't be fined. The only thing I would ask is that if you do choose to withdraw, please let us know in advance: phone Student Absence on 01392-463911 or e-mail studentabsence@clystvaled.org. No one will shout at you, judge you, or question you, and you will save yourself a lot of calls next week asking where your child is!

The Last Day of Term

Will be Friday, 18th December. School transport will run as normal. The College Day will be 08.50 to 15.20. It will be a non-uniform day, proceeds to St Petrock's.

Mentioning Non-Uniform Days....

A polite reminder to students and parents that non-uniform should be appropriate for a day at school: for example we don't like to see crop tops, slashed jeans, cleavages, designer ripped tights, PJs or similar, excessive or huge jewellery, or potentially offensive slogans on clothing. Students with PE? The PE dept says, "*With regard to PE and kit can I ask that your son/daughter comes to school with clothing they are happy to participate in. This would include footwear that is safe for use in their PE lessons*". As ever, most of our students and parents are very reasonable and supportive, and it's entirely possible to show some individuality within these guidelines. We are a school, not staging a fashion parade. (Because it's cold, exposed flesh may be less of a problem, I suppose. Although... most teenagers seem impervious to the cold on non-uniform days; it's just the rest of the year when they are freezing and desperate to keep coats on in lessons.... ☺)

Year 8 Parents Evening

This was our first big year group to use the virtual system; in fact it was our biggest year group! Overall, things went very smoothly with few technical issues. Feedback from parents and colleagues has been really positive. Quite apart from the obvious covid safety, the scrum in the Hall is avoided, and the acoustic problems. Conversations have to be brisk and focused, but that's no bad thing. My colleagues were well-prepared, and had tested the system beforehand. It was handy having an AtHoS available for general queries, although we needed to stress more that this was for all three schools, and really is for general enquiries. Although very successful, it was not perfect, and we are looking to iron out glitches. Some teachers had long waiting lists of parents who couldn't make an appointment; we are arranging individual replacement contact, but are looking at other ways of reducing this problem. There were almost a hundred missed appointments by parents; some of these will be technical issues or last-minute family problems, but this was frustrating. We understand that there is a specific issue with Apple's IOS 14.4 upgrade, but this is beyond our control. If you would like to send in any constructive feedback, please e-mail baileya@clystvaled.org.

Careers Destinations: the Class of 2020

Excellent news from Careers South West. Of last year's Year 11, only 3 are NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training); that's just 2%, which is a very good indicator and consistent with previous years. The biggest sadness is that for obvious reasons, very few students were able to secure an apprenticeship, because they are just not available. However, it's great that so many students have progressed into the next stage of their lives, bearing in mind the emotional battering they suffered from March until August.

The Show Must Go On

(Fingers Crossed). Clyst Vale will be back at the Barnfield in July 2021, with the musical Bonnie and Clyde! We have to be cautious, so this is mostly for Years 10-13, and we also have to be very careful negotiating the exams period, but it would be an amazing end to the school year.

There are further details in AllStudent Teams.

Clyst Vale Library welcomes book donations!

Please see the notice elsewhere on the Newsletter. We are especially interested in stocking up on fiction series and trilogies. Books must be in good condition, and hardbacks especially welcome. However - anything that you think another student would enjoy will be gratefully received. Please take any donations straight to the Library (or Reception). Thank you very much indeed!

Bramble Ward Appeal

Thanks to Miss Jones and Mrs Southard, and the amazing generosity of the Clyst Vale community, you will see that over 60 bags will be donated to the Bramble Ward Appeal. This is just brilliant. Clyst Vale has always promoted charities and thinking of less fortunate people as part of our ethos, and this is a particularly splendid example. Thank you to everyone involved.

Year 11 Exams

These have now finished, and I cannot praise Year 11 students highly enough for their attitude and respect. There were almost no “issues”, not even minor ones. Compliance with exam rules and covid expectations was superb. Student attendance was significantly better than normal, and apart from one or two students, they all completed all subjects’ papers. Large numbers even thanked the invigilators as they left the exam rooms at the end of exams! Not quite as classy as Marie Antoinette apologising for stepping on her executioner’s foot, but very impressive nonetheless. As I said last week, Year 7 deserve a special thanks, too. What gently amused me is that students and colleagues were glad to get back to normal after the exams; this is the normal of one-way systems and hand sanitising. It’s amazing how quickly humans adapt.

Summer Examinations 2021

We have had a little more information, and the finalised timetable is on the exams page of the website. There will be exams before May half-term in GCSE English and Maths, but also Level 3 BTecs (Sixth Form). The exam period will be 7th June to 2nd July. A and AS level exams will end on 25th June, GCSE on 2nd July. BUT, and this is new, the exam boards have indicated that the period *28th June to 16th July* would be used as a contingency for students who have missed all of their exams in a subject for covid reasons/isolating. A single paper would be set, different to the ones missed. This is a huge contingency period – it’s usually one day in case, the rumour has it, a senior royal passes away - and exam boards advise against booking holidays “just in case”. Very difficult for me to give advice: who knows how much the situation will improve by June next year with summer weather and six months of vaccine roll-out, but it could be that a random positive case might require 14 days’ isolation and therefore require a lot of the contingency period. Maybe book the holiday but get additional insurance if a late cancellation is required ?. I’ll stop there. I’ve had to become knowledgeable about public health in the past year, I have no intention of trespassing into the areas of insurance or travel agency....

Wellbeing for Farming Families

I am pleased to promote this information from Kooth, which is working with the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI) to deliver mental health and wellbeing support to farming families across England and Wales. Kooth (CYP 10-18) and Qwell (18+) are well-established organisations available to all farmers and farming family members over the age of 10 with no referrals, waiting lists or thresholds to meet. Services are completely anonymous and can be booked ahead of time, accessed through www.rabi.org.uk/kooth.

“Farmers face a unique set of circumstances that may negatively impact their emotional wellbeing including financial pressures, policy uncertainty, unpredictable weather conditions and long, isolated workdays. The online nature of Kooth and Qwell means that more people can access help in a way that is most suitable for them, at a time that is convenient for them 365 days of the year.”

Dual Use Library

Under Tier Two regulations, only one member of the public can be allowed into the Public Library space, so Devon Libraries ask that they call ahead to book a browsing slot. Please call 01392 464010 and book your time to browse the shelves. (In practice, DLS recognise that people may not realise this, so have allowed walk ins on a limited basis).

Two Local Consultations

Last week, the Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan went live, or to be precise the Regulation 14 Draft. It can be found on: <https://www.broadclyst.org/neighbourhood-plan/community-consultation>. What will be of interest is a proposal in Policy CF1/2 for a Community Sports Hub which would be situated on part of our fields. We have been aware of this development for a while, and it has been mentioned in the Newsletter. The College Trustees are positive towards the idea, as it could be of enormous benefit to the College and the community, but it is still very early days.

You might have noticed reference on our website to East Devon D.C.'s proposal for the Clyst Valley Regional Park. This is a plan to develop a green area with connecting paths and trails encompassing, Poltimore, Ashclyst Forest, Killerton, Cranbrook Country Park and Bishop's Court. We are right in the middle of the Park, which has proposals for developing the Community Farm into a land-based learning centre with on-site café. Again, very early days, and again, potential benefits.

Car Sharing

Another nudge from Devon, which I have abbreviated. If car sharing, try to distance (eg if two people, one in the back seat; or boot, maybe?); keep the car ventilated; don't look at each other; wear masks; spray everything; hand san before getting in and when getting out.

Best wishes



Kevin Bawn
Principal

Do you use Twitter? Then why not follow us @clystvale to find out what's going on in the College community.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

Address: Clyst Vale Community College, Station Road, Broadclyst, Exeter, Devon EX5 3AJ

Tel: 01392 461407 **Email:** admin@clystvale.org **Web:** www.clystvale.org

Library: 01392 464010



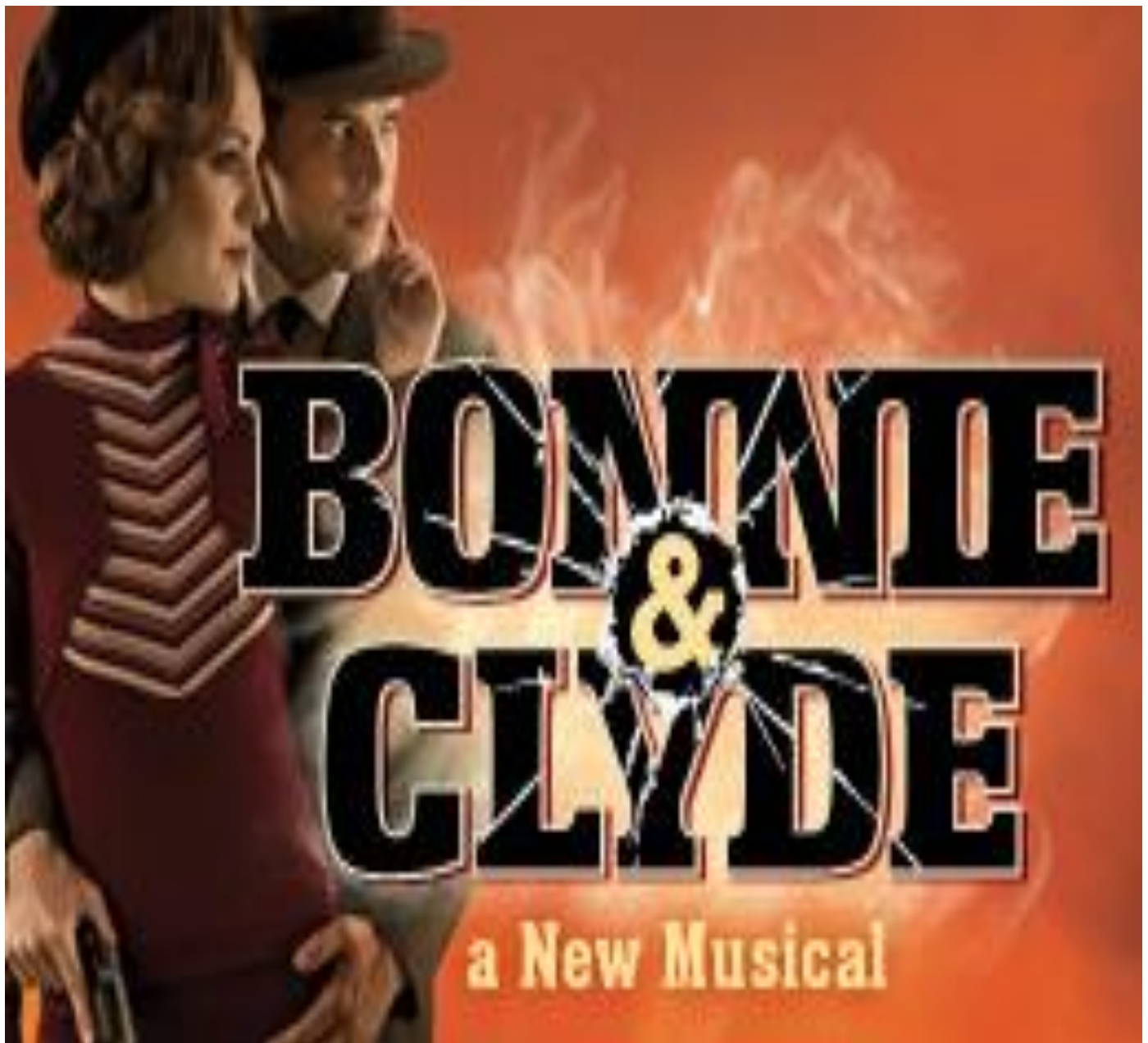
HUGELY EXCITING NEWS!!!

CLYST VALE ARE BACK AT THE BARNFIELD IN JULY 2021 WITH THE
INCREDIBLE NEW MUSICAL:

AUDITIONS FOR YEAR 7-9 NEXT WEEK!!!

AUDITIONS FOR YEAR 10-13 STRAIGHT AFTER CHRISTMAS- GET
PRACTISING!!!!!!!!!!!!

CHECK OUT ALL STUDENTS TEAM FOR ALL THE AUDITION INFO
AND MATERIAL!!!





A huge thank you to the students, families and staff who have contributed to this year's Bramble Ward Appeal. Due to your generosity, we have over 60 bags and boxes jam packed full of gifts and goodies. They really will help bring a smile to people's faces if they are in hospital over Christmas. Thank you so much!



Miss Jones and Mrs Southard

Food Lessons

Many thanks for your understanding over the seemingly ever-changing situation, regarding food practical lessons. Now that we are back on a more normal situation with regard to alternating theory and practical lessons, we would just like to remind you of the following ways of finding out in advance, what your child is making and when the lesson is:



1. Details of ingredients for each term's topic, is posted on the lesson team page at the start of the term. Practicals are then followed in order (although sometimes a lesson is missed out if, for example, it falls on a non-pupil day (as will occur Monday A in January) or a day when a Year group or whole school activity takes place and normal lessons are suspended)
2. Practical lessons are posted on Teams and include the recipe and the ingredients needed (some students are bringing their own printed copy of the recipe to the lesson, which is a great idea, if you are able to do that).
3. To work out which lesson is which, your child's timetable will have two food and nutrition lessons; one timetabled in DT3 which is the practical lesson and one timetabled in DT4, which is the theory lesson.
4. The practical should also be written in their planner (time is given at the start of the lesson for this).
5. An outline of Food and Nutrition topics for each year group can also be found on the College web site.

We hope this will be of help and look forward to hopefully, completing a more normal pattern of lessons, next term.

Many thanks!

Mrs Crook and Mr Krasko

Clyst Vale Library welcomes book donations!

Do you need to re-home some books, to make way for new Christmas reads?

The Library would be delighted to accept any used books that you would like to donate to Clyst Vale Library.

The Library is especially interested in stocking up on series and trilogies, and is particularly keen to have books from certain authors (please see details on poster). However - anything that you think another student would enjoy will be gratefully received.

Please take any donations straight to Mrs Southard in the Library. Thank you very much indeed!



Lucy Southard

CALENDAR DATES

DATE	EVENT
Fri 18 December	LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM St Petrock's - Non-Uniform Day
2021	
Tues 5th January	Start of Spring Term
w/b Mon 8 February	Y13 Mocks
Fri 12th February	Force Cancer - Non-Uniform Day
Mon 15th - Fri 19th February	Half Term
Thurs 1st April	Last Day of Spring Term
Tues 20th April	Start of Summer Term
Mon 31st May - Fri 4th June	Half Term
Fri 23rd July	LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM Water Aid - Non-Uniform Day

EMPLOYABILITY WEEK 2021 - January 2021

Can you help us by providing a brief careers story?

We feel it is vitally important for the students at CVCC to develop their employability skills and understand the world of work, which is why we introduced 'Employability Week' a few years ago. Unfortunately, we cannot have our usual visitors in school but I would like to build a virtual experience for the students. There is nothing more powerful for students than hearing from real people about their career journeys. I would love to hear from anyone who is willing to share their positive story and create a short talk which can be recorded and watched by the students. It would be great to hear from people such as ex-CVCC students, local businesses, those who went onto further education as well as those who went straight into employment after school or completed apprenticeships. I will provide full guidelines as to what should be included in the talk, which would only need to be a brief.

If you are interested in producing a short video please email me so I can send out the requirements. I would also need your permission for this to be shown to our students and potentially appear on our website.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mrs Bennett - Careers Lead
bennettn@clystvaley.org

Online wellbeing support and counselling for farming people



Community Support

Relate and connect with others by sharing similar experiences, and gain valuable self-care tips and tools from our engaged community and professional team.



Professional support

Our team of professionals aim to provide early response to emotional well-being as well as emerging mental health needs via our online site and counselling sessions.



Self-help

Helpful articles, personal experiences and tips from our community and professional team. You can also set personal goals, write in your journal, or start a discussion with the community.

Visit rabi.org.uk/kooth

RABI
helping farming people.

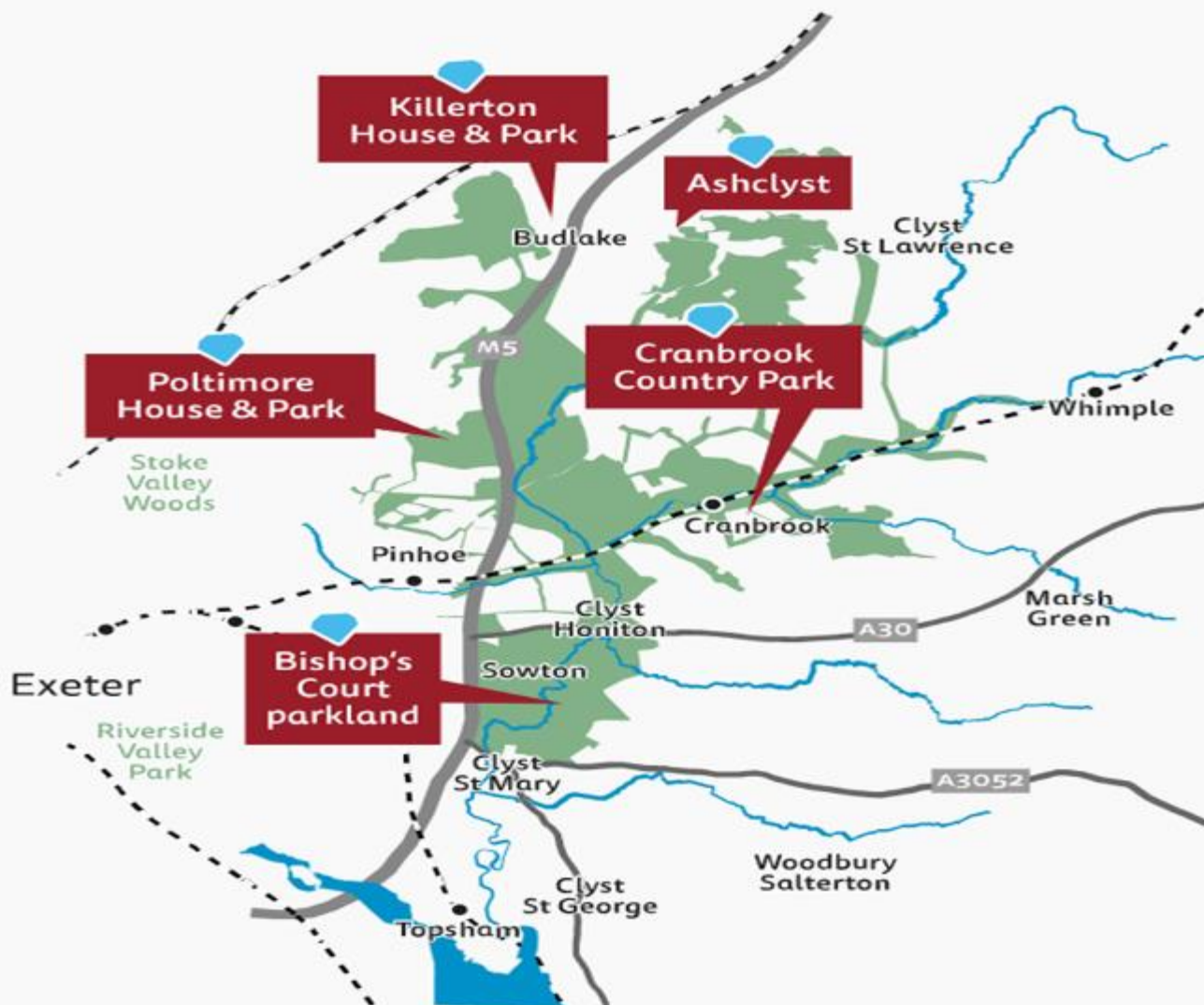
 **kooth**



Clyst Valley Regional Park - Consultation

East Devon District Council would like to encourage local residents to contribute to their masterplan consultation, regarding the proposed **Clyst Valley Regional Park**, which is a new public green space in East Devon's Clyst Valley.

Where is the Clyst Valley Regional Park?



To view a copy of the draft masterplan, and to take the opportunity to make your views known about the plan's priorities, please look online at the links below.

[Clyst Valley Regional Park Masterplan](#)

The Clyst Valley National Park has its own website, here:

[Clyst Valley Park](#)

East Devon District Council have also produced a short film about it, which can be found on YouTube, here:

[Clyst Valley Park - short film](#)

You have until **midday on Thursday 7th January 2021** to comment.

Having taken feedback into account, the finalised masterplan will be submitted for approval by the District Council at a public meeting, next spring.

Attendance, Absence and Requests for Absence

Please let the College know of any absence on the first day it occurs.

If the absence continues beyond the first day, please contact the College on each subsequent day of absence, too. To comply with safeguarding obligations, we cannot simply assume a student's sickness absence is ongoing; we need to be certain that the reason for absence is due to continuing illness.

If you do not notify the College, then we will make contact with you to identify the reason for absence. This is important as it helps to reduce unauthorised absences and truancy.

Please note, the College may ask you to provide medical proof if a student is absent from College due to illness.

Medical Appointments

We encourage students to maximise their levels of attendance; research indicates a direct link between attendance and examination performance. The timing of many medical appointments means that often students can attend school first, and return afterwards. By doing so, students minimise missed learning whilst keeping their attendance levels as high as possible. Therefore, we ask that parents/carers send their child into school for morning registration, even when a medical appointment takes place in the middle of the morning. Similarly, appointments scheduled for the afternoon should, where possible, be arranged after Period 4 - during lunchtime. Students are encouraged to return to school after a lunchtime appointment, if they can.

Thank you for your support in helping your child maximise their attendance and learning.

For Years 7 - 11 Absences

Please ring:

Penni Ball/Sharon Leaman (Attendance Officers)

Direct line: 01392 463911

Email: studentabsence@clystvale.org

For Year 12 - 13 Absences

Please ring:

Jassy Barrington (Post-16 PA)

Direct line: 01392 462697

Email: barringtonj@clystvale.org

COLLEGE DRESS

Clyst Vale aims to maintain a simple pattern of College dress to promote a clear sense of identity and enable students to come sensibly dressed, at reasonable cost, for a range of learning activities. If a student is improperly dressed, correct uniform will be provided for that day or the student may be sent home to change his/her clothing, at the discretion of the Principal. **If parents are in any doubt about the suitability of an item of uniform they should check with the College before buying it.**

Uniform for all students in Years 7 to 11

- White collared shirt
- School colour tie
- Clyst Vale V-neck jumper with College logo
- Boys' trousers - Banner Slimbridge (black)/Banner Falmouth (black)
- Girls' trousers - Trutex GTN (2 pocket black)/David Luke DL965 (black)
- All trousers must have Clyst Vale logo rivet on waistband
- Skirts - Trutex Senior stitched down/Taylor Tartan (blue) skirt worn no more than 2" above the knee
- Knee length black tailored shorts may be worn
- Black sturdy shoes or **all black** trainers
- White socks or black tights with skirts
- Clyst Vale reversible jacket or other outdoor coat

All uniform and PE Kit can be purchased from Thomas Moore, Exeter. Thomas Moore offers both a personal service in their shop and also the opportunity to order on line at www.thomasmooretoymaster.co.uk

- Eyebrow jewellery, facial, tongue, nose and lip studs are not permitted.
- Leather jackets, all denim garments and all hoodies are not permitted.
- Hats should not be worn indoors.
- Outer coats should be predominantly plain in colour and without large logos.
- A plain white t-shirt or vest may be worn under the shirt.
- On health and safety grounds, shoes should be appropriate for a work place. Flipflops, open toes, Uggs, Dr Martens (or equivalent) are not permitted.
- Jewellery may be worn, providing it is not excessive or potentially hazardous. However, it is a legal requirement that all jewellery must be removed before undertaking sporting activities. It is the responsibility of the wearer to do this.

The Principal, in consultation with the Governors of the College, will decide on the suitability of the appearance of a student attending the College - extreme hair styles, of either cut or colour, are not permitted.