



24 September 2020

Sixth Form Students and Parents

Yesterday saw the national launch of the NHS Covid-19 App which aims to be a key part of the national ongoing Covid-19 response. I am sure many of you will already have downloaded the app and have it in place. The app is specifically designated for those over 16 years old; indeed part of the install process requires a direct 'yes/no response' to the 'are you over 16 question.' We would therefore only support our students over the age of 16 using this app.

Should you support your sixth form aged student in using the app then we recommend that you read the information leaflet aimed at parents, which can be found on our website <https://tgs.starmat.uk/letters/september/>, so you are aware of the functions of the app and how they are applied in an educational setting.

During the school day, we will continue to adhere to our normal mobile phone policy. Therefore we would only expect that the app would be checked for notifications out of normal lesson times. Furthermore, as with national guidance, we ask our sixth form students to 'pause' contact tracing whilst on site as we will utilise our more detailed close contact seating plans and daily contact logging.

It is really important that our students know that should they receive an alert, they should immediately notify a trusted adult. When they are at school, this trusted adult should be a member of the Sixth Form team, all of whom have been briefed to follow official guidelines. Similarly, should the app notify your child of contact out of school hours, then please notify school as soon as possible as we keep very detailed records to help secure everyone's wellbeing.

Over the coming few days, all students will be briefed about appropriate expectations with regard to usage of the NHS Covid-19 app, including how to 'pause' tracing during the school day. Should you have any queries with the above, please direct them to myself in the first instance.

Yours faithfully,

Ms R Knapton
Assistant Headteacher: Director of Sixth Form