**Questions from the Zoom Chat Facility Year 9 meeting November 2021**

**Vaccinations**

**Will there be catch-up vaccinations for pupils who didn't have the first jab in September and if so, will the flu vaccination be offered in school at the same time?**

The school-aged immunisation team have been advised that from 25th October all children and young people aged 12-15 will be able to access a single dose of a COVID-19 vaccine via the National Booking System (NBS). This offer will vary dependent on where you live e.g., GP, mass vaccination centre. You should receive a letter from the national team outlining this ‘out of school’ offer, which will advise who is eligible and how to book.

For flu, there will be catch-up clinics that are set out by Berkshire immunisation team in the local community.

**Lockers**

**Will the school be providing lockers for students?**

The school will be offering the students the opportunity to hire lockers in the near future. This agreement will be with an external company for a small fee. We will be writing to parents with more information shortly.

**Reporting**

**Please can you explain how to login to the Sims parent App?**

If you haven’t got login details, or if they don’t work, please email school@lgs.slough.sch.uk and the IT team should be able to help you.

**When are the professionally predicted grades provided?**

Professional predictions are used at each reporting stage when students are studying the GCSE course - typically 3 times each year. The predictions will change over time. We think these are better indicators than target grades - they indicate what teachers think students are actually going to achieve.

**Use of iPads**

**Are students taught how to take notes on the iPads?**

It is up to each subject as to how the iPads are used, and there will be a difference across the subjects in terms of whether notes are made on paper or in OneNote. I will take the point about how much they have been taught about note taking back to the curriculum leaders. It is certainly true that this year group will have less training input during Year 8, but we would expect this to be ‘caught up’ over the course of this year.

**Are parents able to download more Apps on iPad for educational purposes?**

The device management system allows us to make a lot of apps available for download - many of which we supply for free. We are always willing to put more things into that portal if you have suggestions for us.

**Could you please advise if any steps taken by School to minimise student's screen time, which is very difficult to control by parents especially since School requires Students to use IPads?**

We do try to balance things a bit in school so they don’t spend every lesson on screens, but beyond homework assignments we do think it is parents’ responsibility to manage their screen time.

**PTCs**

**Can appointment times be increased from 5 minutes for the PTCs?**

We know not everyone is happy with 5 minute appointment times. However, it is not possible to increase this due to the number of students that teachers need to see. The idea of the PTC is to give a focused overview of how the child is getting on across the range of subjects. If there are serious issues which would require a longer discussion, this is better taken outside the PTC and followed up with the teacher separately.

**Can we get an email from the respective subject teachers to give a brief overview of the student’s performance and what to improve in each subject?**

We would love to be able to give this kind of detailed feedback - but it simply is not possible. Teachers do not have time to do this.

**Activities**

**Is there a timetable of lunch time and after school extra-curricular activities?**

That isn’t fully in place as we are only now getting our extra-curricular programme back up and running, but we will try and do that. Most students will know what the opportunities are.

**Will there be any school trips this year?**

We are very much hoping to get back to our normal level of additional activities and trips out of school. Covid permitting (!) we should be arranging a number of trips for this academic year.

**Will there be any residential trips?**

There will be Duke of Edinburgh available for selected year 9 students.

**Curriculum**

**Are you able to recommend books that students have to read?**

Subject teachers may recommend specific things related to subjects, but we would say that reading almost anything is helpful as it develops vocabulary. websites, magazines, newspapers, fiction…..it all exposes them to different styles of writing, increases vocabulary and stimulates ideas. Anything they have to read as part of the courses will be clearly signposted to them.