



### Introduction

We hope this finds you well, and that you now have your children safely home for the long break. It has been an extraordinary, and extraordinarily difficult, year for our international pupils, and we would take the opportunity of this Update to salute their stoicism and their cheerful resilience.

### Start-of-Term – Key Dates and Timings

<b>Tue 31 Aug</b>	Midday	Boarding houses open for overseas <b>Lower Sixth</b> pupils. Please note that the boarding houses are open only for pupils in the Lower Sixth, and that returning Lower Sixth pupils are <b>not</b> to attempt to access their boarding houses prior to this time.
	17:00	Swimming briefing for all Lower Sixth swimmers and their parents (Big School)  Football briefing for all members of the High-Performance Girls' Football squad and their parents (Board Room)
	18:00	Head Master's Reception & welcome for <b>all</b> Lower Sixth pupils and their parents
	19:00	Lower Sixth boarders and any remaining parents return to Houses for farewells  Parents depart
<b>Wed 1 Sep</b>	14:00 – 15:00	Boarding houses open for all <b>new boarders</b> in Years 9 – 10
	15:00	New Prep boarders report to Tavy House
	16:00 – 18:00	High-Performance Girls Football training
	16:30	Swim squad briefing for <b>all</b> swimmers (current and new, Years 9, 10, 11 and Upper Sixth) and their parents. (Big School)  Current Prep boarders return to Tavy House
	17:00	All remaining boarders to be in school
	17:30	All parents to be off-site
<b>Thu 2 Sep</b>	8:15	Term commences

## Quarantine

The end of the academic year is also an appropriate moment for us to set out the extent of the school's provision with regards to quarantine on the resumption of school in September.

Clearly, the situation remains very uncertain and recent UK government relaxation of the rules on social distancing and mask-wearing within the UK have little bearing on the issue of travel and quarantine. We should therefore expect that, for the foreseeable future, those traveling to the UK will continue to be required to quarantine.

Unfortunately, however, we simply do not have the capacity to offer quarantine within school at any time, so parents of pupils returning to the UK have three options:

- Make arrangements with your son or daughter's guardian to serve their period in quarantine with a **host family**, – though we are conscious that this is very much more challenging for those traveling to the UK from countries on the Red List.
- Book your son or daughter onto one of the growing number of **commercially-run quarantine camps** that are being run around the country, the details of which may be found on the internet. Accompanying this Update is a schedule of guardian agencies approved by AEGIS (Association for the Education & Guardianship of International Students), any of whom might be approached for quarantine provision.
- In the event that you are unable to organise quarantine elsewhere, we have once again partnered with **Moorland Hall** – an outdoor & adventure centre up the road from Mount Kelly, in the village of Mary Tavy – to run a further quarantine camp, from **Fri 3 to Mon 13 Sep**.

The cost of this camp will be £850, which includes the cost of all necessary testing.

We appreciate that it is not ideal for the camp to run during the first full week of the new term, but this is unavoidable. Though we will not be live-streaming our lessons, they will be recorded and those on the camp will be able to engage with their lessons remotely, and staff will continue to set work on Teams.

Please give careful thought to this, and use this [link](#) to let us know your plans. As previously, though we make every effort to be flexible, we would ask that this form is completed by close of play on Sun 1 Aug.

## Travel

Please be aware that Mount Kelly will organise transfers only from Heathrow, Exeter or Bristol Airports, and from there only to Mount Kelly or Moorland Hall. Should your child be quarantining elsewhere in the country, it is your responsibility to organise their transfer from airport to place of quarantine, and from place of quarantine to Mount Kelly.

Travel may only be booked using the [online travel form](#) for the start of Michaelmas Term 2021:

If your child is quarantining elsewhere in the country, and intends at the conclusion of their period in quarantine to travel to Plymouth or Exeter by train, please use the [online taxi, coach & train travel request form](#) for the start of Michaelmas Term 2021

At a time of such complication and uncertainty it is absolutely imperative that parents lodge their child's travel requests at the earliest opportunity, and communicate early and regularly with the school's Transport Manager, Mrs Gaynor Bersey – [BerseyG@Mountkelly.com](mailto:BerseyG@Mountkelly.com)

### **Conclusion**

Should any of our overseas parents have any questions or concerns, they should address them to Mr Reid, the Principal Deputy Head ([ReidA@mountkelly.com](mailto:ReidA@mountkelly.com)) or Mr Dom Floyd, the Head of Prep ([FloydD@mountkelly.com](mailto:FloydD@mountkelly.com)).