

29th November 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Currently, Germany and many parts of Europe are experiencing unprecedented and still increasing levels of Covid-19 infection. This, together with new concerns about the newly-identified "Omicron" variant, might put at risk some of the travel plans that students have for the Winter break, especially where flights and intercontinental travel are involved. It is not inconceivable that borders of countries within the EU also close to people who are not citizens/residents of those countries. All RBC students are considered as residents in Germany, so if they leave Germany for the Winter break, they should be allowed to return to Germany (transport links permitting).

Please know that RBC will support any student to find accommodation over the Winter break whose travel plans are disrupted because of new developments.

In these parts of Europe, serious illness and death from Covid-19 are reported to be strongly correlated to being unvaccinated. Almost all RBC students are fully vaccinated.

RBC has just started what is called "Block Week" – a time when instead of the usual timetable, each subject is allocated a "block" of three hours for a more substantial piece of work or for an examination. Most students are working and studying hard and most remain on campus even outside class time. The campus was transformed overnight with its first winter covering of snow – a weather-related incentive for students to remain on campus! And from today, the previously-reported restrictions on off-campus student movement have come into effect, as part of our precautionary preparation for the Winter break.

As usual, please feel free to write to me (if you wish!) in a language of your comfort. My email address remains: laurence.nodder@uwcrobertboschcollege.de

With best wishes,

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