

Dear Parents/Carers and students

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to the academy who is not currently self-isolating. The last couple of weeks have been challenging for all but the feedback from zoom lessons has been positively received and allows us to improve our practice as we move forward.

Thank you to all who have taken the time out to send in their thanks and praise for the staff who have been juggling face to face and virtual teaching alongside each other – the recognition certainly spurs staff on and has been shared in staff briefings and emailed to individual teachers where they have been specifically named.

Year 11 trial exams start this week and are scheduled for the next two weeks. Detail on this will be discussed with students in tutor time tomorrow for those who have not already read the communication sent via or email or through Class Charts.

Year 9 Parental Review Evening takes place virtually on **Wednesday 25.11.20, 4.00-7.00pm.**

A communication has been sent to all parents' and students through Class Charts and students have been encouraged to make appointments with their teachers over the last week. If you have not yet signed up please contact your child(s) class teachers via email for your slot, invitations will then be sent out to log into.

Coats - As the weather changes for the winter can I remind students to wear coats (over their blazer). Break times for most year groups are outside and it would be recommended students have a coat. Can I remind parents/carers that students are not permitted to wear hoodies in the academy.

Face coverings – Students are still required to bring and wear a face covering to school and should be putting it on on their way to the academy once they can no longer keep a 2 meter distance from others.

Best practice would be that students have at least two well fitted face coverings per day and that they place it in a clean plastic bag when it is not being worn. Please check the face covering your child is wearing is secure to their face and it is washed daily. This is an essential piece of academy uniform.

Space – Lockdown rules – Students should not be meeting in groups to walk to and from the academy nor out of academy hours. The current rules are people can meet one other person outside and socially distance by 2 meters only. Please ensure your child understands this. The academy is not included in this statement but students are expected to follow our rules of 'Hands, Face, Space' once they are in the building, as they have done since 1 September.

Self-isolation rules. If your child is self-isolating please ensure your child understands this means they cannot leave their house or return to school until the date given. If self-isolating as a close contact this is for 14 days. If positive this is 10 days. Please do not send your child into the academy prior to their end date or if they have any symptoms or are awaiting a test result from anyone in your household or if there is a positive case within your household.

Thank you for your support, stay safe and take care

Kate Kell
Head of School