

5th March 2021



Dear Parents

I am pleased to say we are now ready to welcome all students back to the Academy. Staff have been in school all week and there has been lots of live lessons from school. Hub students will attend school as usual and they will return to normal lessons from Monday as well.

Face coverings and teachers wearing face coverings

Hopefully all students now have a minimum of two fabric face coverings to bring to school. These will be checked every morning, before students enter the building, and are now a vital part of the uniform (unless your child has an exemption lanyard.)

All staff will also be wearing face coverings around the building. In lessons, if teachers and teaching assistants are moving round the classroom they will wear a face covering. In order that teaching and learning is most effective if a teacher is delivering a lesson by providing verbal explanation or instructions, then they will position themselves 2m from students and remove their face covering.

The Department for Education are reviewing this requirement at Easter so hopefully this measure in classrooms will only be for a short period. Thank you for your support by ensuring your child brings their face covering every day.

Times of school day

Tutor time will continue to start at 8.30am and students will continue to use the entrance into the building closest to their tutor rooms. Unless it is raining, we will encourage students to stay outside until just before 8.30am as they will need to have a face covering on after this time.

At the end of the school day **all students** will now finish at our **normal finish time of 3.00pm**.

Students will return to their tutor for the final ten minutes of the day when they will be able to check in and see how their day has been. As an additional level of pastoral support for the first two weeks, tutors will also be available from 3.00pm – 3.30pm for any student who would like to talk to their tutor. I hope that there are very few catch-ups needed, but if needed these will also be with their tutor.

Homework

We are anticipating that students may be more tired than usual as all children return to school. This is partly due to face to face lessons and also due to the increase in social interactions during the day. With this in mind we will not be issuing students in Year 7, 8 and 9 homework for the first two weeks. Other students may experience a reduced amount for the first two weeks.

Enrichment programme

We're delighted to be able to start some enrichment activities and our enrichment programme will be shared with students in the week beginning 15th March. All clubs will start week beginning 22nd March.

A significant number of transition calls and visits have now taken place, if you have any queries at all please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Moore
Headteacher

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