

## September 2021 - student information

As we are looking forward to opening with some normality in September, there is information below regarding our day to day operations, that will support your son/daughter with their return to the Academy or for their new start.

We are required to provide a lateral flow test for all students before they return to school. In order to minimise the disruption to the learning of our students we will be testing **all students** on Friday 3rd September. Your son/daughter will be provided with an allocated time for them to have their test at the Academy. They will then be required to leave the site and return for a full day on Monday 6th September.

A further second test will need to be taken on Tuesday 7th September when, again, your son/daughter will be provided with an allocated time to arrive at the Academy for their test. They will then be required to complete remote learning at home for the remainder of the day. All students will then return to the Academy on Wednesday 8th September.

Appointment letters and further details will be sent to all parents and carers later this week.

There is a separate information sheet regarding current guidance for managing COVID-19 when we return, however, please note this is subject to change and I will update you as soon as I am aware.

There are some of the changes made this year that, after consulting with students and staff, we feel it would be beneficial to keep:

- The **wearing of PE uniform**, on the days students have PE and/or dance, has proven to be very successful. The student voice was overwhelmingly positive and general feedback commented on how much more time they can have in their PE lesson rather than getting changed. Lately we have noticed quite a variation being worn by some students and enclosed is a list of the items needed for our PE uniform so that students remain looking smart at all times. Please note that hoodies/sweatshirts are not allowed as part of our uniform or as a substitute for a coat.
- Our **canteen Fusion App** has enabled a reduction in waste across the student body, supporting our environment. This app will continue to be how our students order their food, however, there will be an extended menu of hot food with the canteen being available again to collect and eat food. There will also be other collection points around the Academy for cold food and a limited amount of hot food. It will be great to see the menu extended to include some of the delights our canteen staff can offer.
- **Lockers** will continue to be available for those students who currently have one and we will be purchasing some additional lockers as well. These will be placed at various points around the Academy. Details on how you acquire one can be obtained from your Head of Year.

- There will be no allocated site **entrance or exit** for students but a reminder that students are expected to be on site in their classrooms by 0835, ready for lessons starting at 0840.
- Whilst it is fantastic that so many of our students keep themselves active by riding their bikes and/or scooters to and from the Academy, we want to ensure that all our students remain as safe as possible. If your son/daughter wishes to **ride their bike/scooter** to the Academy then our policy is being updated to state that they must wear a protective helmet. I am sure you will agree that this will help keep our young people safe.
- **Homework** will officially commence during the third week - w/c 13th September. This will give students time to sign in to, and familiarise themselves with, all of the relevant Google Classrooms and other online platforms. Year 10-13 students may be set independent work before this time if it is necessary to support learning in lessons but there will be no homework detentions initially. Further details regarding homework will be provided at the start of the year.