



Dear Parents/Carers

19 March 2021

I wanted to write to all families and students to say thank you for the positive start that we have had since our return to school on 8 March. We have had over 98% of our families' consent to the lateral flow testing process, which is now complete. All consenting students have now received their home testing kits with guidance on how to use them, as per my previous letter on 16 March. Please can we encourage this process to happen, as it is crucial to keeping us all in school safely.

PE Kits and uniform

As of Monday 22 March, all students are to come to school every day wearing their correct school uniform. Correct PE kits are to be brought in bags and students will change in the changing rooms as usual. Having a correct school uniform is very important to us as an academy and we will be spot checking uniforms, as we normally do, over the coming days/weeks. Please can all students arrive in the correct uniform and footwear from Monday 22. If there are any issues with this, please contact the relevant Year Managers.

National Day of Reflection and wellbeing

On Tuesday 23 March the academy will be taking part in the Covid-19: UK national day of reflection. Each tutor group will be creating a remembrance rainbow of reflection and hope. As an academy we will be holding a minute's silence to reflect and mark the anniversary of the UK's first COVID lockdown.

This has been an extremely challenging year for us all and know that our students have been affected by an event that will undoubtedly be discussed in History books of the future. I wanted to take this opportunity to reassure you that we will continue to have mental health and wellbeing as an integral part of our curriculum and that teachers will continue to focus on recovery curriculum.

We are encouraging all staff and students to have conversations about what they have learnt in lockdown as opposed to what they have missed, as we believe that positive conversations are the best way to motivate our students.

I will continue to keep in touch with any latest information that we receive about the current COVID climate, but would hope that as we slowly move towards a vaccinated society and further along the road map out of lockdown, we can begin to move closer to the normal school routines. I thank you all again for your continued support and kind words of encouragement, which I share with staff every time I receive them and that I know they are greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

J Thornton
Acting Principal

