



Principal: Ms Alison Downey

Preparing every student to be a pillar of any community

6th October, 2020

Dear Parents and carers

I hope that you and your families are well and staying safe. This is a quick update on some key developments and reminders in these difficult times.

Masks

Masks are now compulsory in enclosed spaces around the academy. This is part of a government directive and is about keeping everyone safe. We have masks on sale every day for £1.50 but the expectation is that every child carries two masks. One for travel and one for in school. The majority of students have adhered to this new rule but there are still some students who are struggling to comply, especially regarding how a mask is worn.

As of Monday we will now be issuing students with negative points if they are seen without a mask properly worn in corridors or enclosed spaces. There are a number of students who are exempt from wearing a mask and they have been issued with a special badge so that staff can identify them. This is based on evidence and does not include mild forms of asthma. Please contact your child's Head of Year for further details.

Wet break and Lunch

We now have arrangements in place for emergency wet breaks inside the building. This is not an ideal arrangement from a COVID perspective but will be used when the weather conditions are considered to be truly adverse. As we move into the winter months please can I ask you to ensure that your child has a waterproof coat which is black or grey and carries an umbrella to protect them to and from school and in the event of light rain at breaks.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a priority for any school or institution and it is vital that we keep all students safe. Please can I ask parents not to approach other students from APA either on social media or personally as it is highly inappropriate. If you have an issue with a student at APA please contact the school directly to deal with the matter. Students are considered minors and as such any approaches by adults can place them in a difficult position both morally and legally.

I will write to you again next week before the end of half term to update you on arrangements for Autumn 2 and beyond.

In the meantime, best wishes

Ms A Downey
PRINCIPAL

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