

28 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Post Half Term Expectations and Close Contact Tracing Over The Break

Wearing of Face Coverings in Schools

In my last letter I updated you about the wearing of face masks. In Wakefield we have been asked by Andy Lancashire, Service Director for Education and Inclusion at Wakefield Council, that **students should continue to wear a face covering when moving around the school in corridors and in communal areas.** I wanted to send a huge thank you, the vast majority of students are still wearing masks. Wakefield numbers are reducing, however, for now the advice remains the same.

High Standards and Expectations Continue

Please note that after the May half term break the wearing of non academy clothing items (for example, jumpers which are not specific academy uniform and the wearing of coats anywhere inside the building etc) will **not** be allowed. Please also remember that only a normal wristwatch is allowed (it must not connect to the internet, phone etc). No other jewellery is allowed, this includes transparent plastic jewellery. That hair must be a natural colour, nail varnish and false nails are not permitted and that any make up must be very discrete. Please ensure that your child returns to the academy following these clear expectations.

Our academy remains a mobile free zone. Students who need to contact home must do so via SID. Students who choose to use their phone, for whatever reason, will have their phone confiscated for an adult to collect.

Our Consequences system remains firmly in place, this is clearly communicated to all students in tutor time assemblies and to individuals who require this. To be safe, be respectful, and be responsible are our main aims. We expect all students to meet this. No student has the right to restrict the learning, progress and safety of any other student. Thank you for working with us to ensure that all students have a positive learning experience.

Year 11

Our amazing Year 11 students have now completed their normal lessons and have access to a wide range of virtual lessons and in academy lessons to prepare them for their next steps. Year 11 will be able to access the details for this on their Year 11 Google Classroom after half term.

Teacher Assessment Grades will be released on Thursday 12th August. Further information will be sent to Year 11 nearer the time providing details for this day.

Year 10 End of Year Assessments

Please note that over the next half term Year 10 students will be participating in end of year assessments allowing them to demonstrate how hard they have been working over the year, in particular since our return at the start of March. This information will support the settings of students as they progress into Year 11. I am sure they will do their very best to shine. Current Year 10 will be taking formal external exams at the end of their final year, further information will follow once we have confirmed the assessment schedule for next half term and OFQUAL release information about next year.

Attendance and Punctuality

100% attendance is an expectation for all students throughout the year. I look forward to seeing all students every day until our final day Friday 23rd July unless there are exceptional circumstances. It is also important for learning in the academy that students are punctual in the morning. The vast majority of students who are late could have avoided this by setting off slightly earlier or not going to the shop. Please support your child with this life skill.

Informing Us About a Positive Case Over Half Term

As you are aware the academy has to conduct a close contact trace for any positive cases via lateral flow test or PCR. If your child tests positive over the half term and was in the academy at any point within the infection period: 48 hours before symptoms starting or in the case of asymptomatic (no symptoms) 48 hours prior to a positive test please email the academy on enquiries@freeston.outwood.com or via the website: <https://www.freeston.outwood.com/contact> We will need: evidence of the test inc date (eg a photo or screenshot), name of student, year group, social friends during the infection period, when symptoms started, parent phone number. A member of staff will then contact you.

If your child is a close contact you will be sent a text/Xpressions message informing you of this and the date your child needs to self isolate to.

Finally, all in the academy fully appreciate what a difficult time this has been and we thank you for working with us to ensure that teaching and learning and our high standards continue. We are hoping that restrictions will change again for the September return and a letter will be sent to you later in the term regarding this. Please stay in contact by utilising our Twitter feed and reading the weekly Principal's Blog on the website.

Yours faithfully



Lisa Allott
Principal