

Friday 23rd October 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Half-term break and the return to school

I wanted to start with a sincere thank you to you and your child. The challenges presented by COVID-19 across the country has made this a difficult half-term for some schools, but your support and the positive attitude of the pupils has made this easier.

We are likely to face the same challenges next half term. Attendance at school is compulsory, and we want to support our pupils to stay on track with their learning, however we can only achieve this with your help. Therefore, please follow the guidance below.

What to do if you or your child gets COVID-19 over half-term?

COVID-19 exists in our wider community outside of school, and therefore it is important to remain aware of how you and your child are, and whether they are symptoms of COVID-19. The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a recent:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child or any member of your household develops symptoms of COVID-19 they must get a test and remain at home for at least 10 days from when their symptoms first appeared until they receive a negative test result.

Anyone with symptoms can receive a test by going to <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

If your child or any member of your household has symptoms or a confirmed case, all other household members who are well must also stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. They should not go to work or public areas, and you should ask friends or family for their help with shopping or picking up medication.

Public Health England 'Stay at Home' Guidance is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

In the event of your child having a positive test for COVID-19 during the half term break please contact Mr Foster or Miss Sweeting via Class Dojo so the Academy can conduct relevant contact tracing and processes. The Academy can also provide information as to when your child can return to the Academy.

What do you do if your child still has COVID-19 or symptoms after half-term?

After half term finishes if your child has symptoms, is unwell, or it has been confirmed that they have COVID-19, it is **very important that you keep them at home**. Those children with a confirmed case are required to self-isolate at home for 14 days.

If you are in any doubt, please contact us on 0161 223 0053 on Monday 2nd November **before** bringing your child to school, and we can advise you.



If your child is well and is not required to isolate at home, they are to return to school as normal on Monday 2nd November at their relevant start time.

We are doing all that we can to keep the academy open, and all the precautions we are taking (class bubbles, social distancing, face coverings and visors, additional handwashing, staggered start and finish times etc) means that we can open safely.

We can only continue to stay open however if every family follows this advice and is extra vigilant of their child's health. Please only bring your child to school if they are well, have no symptoms and have not tested positive for COVID-19.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "asweeting".

Angela Sweeting
Principal