



14 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

General update – Covid-19, non-Covid vaccinations of Years 9 and 10, remote learning and live lessons, Examinations 2021, Year 13 parents' evening, vocational examinations in Years 11, 12 and 13, careers interviews for Year 11 and 13 students, Sixth form applications, Personal Development (all year groups), Free School Meals, SEND clinics, E-Platform digital library

I hope this letter finds you all well as we come to the end of the second week of 2021. Another busy update letter below:

Covid-19

Unlike the preceding weeks, we have proceeded at a more measured pace since last Friday. Announcements from central government were expected and this has allowed us to confirm and/or finesse our approach in a few areas as you will see below. In line with some of the headlines around attendance of students rising at school during the lockdown, we have seen a mixed picture but particularly Years 7 and 8 are really quite full. I hope that numbers do not continue to rise. Should this happen, I will look to ration places on safety grounds but I hope this is avoidable. The guidance remains for your children to stay at home if possible, even if you are a keyworker.

At this juncture, it is necessary to remind parents of the uniform and behaviour expectations for students attending in person during the lockdown, which remain unchanged. A small number of students have attempted to attend in variety of different uniform offerings which will be picked up and dealt with in the usual way, as will behaviour. I thank you all for your support and understanding with this issue.

I would also be grateful if parents would refrain from interrupting live lessons, particularly in Key Stage 3. We have had some instances of parents interrupting the teacher to berate them or to comment on the learning. If parents have questions/queries/concerns please follow the usual channels rather than disrupt lessons. Any concerns will be dealt with in the usual way.

If any parents have any other concerns related to Covid-19 in school, please contact us at the Academy using the email address COVID@srpa.co.uk.

Non-Covid vaccinations of Years 9 and 10

Due to Covid-19, the routine vaccinations of Year 9s were missed last year, and – due to the lockdown – are in danger of being missed again this year. With this in mind, the NHS will be

vaccinating Year 9 and 10 pupils against bacterial Meningitis this term. Year 9 and 10 parents will receive a letter via sims in touch to register consent.

Remote learning and live lessons

All curriculum plans will be published in the usual manner by 9am on the Monday morning of that week. I encourage full attendance at Teams live or pre-recorded lessons wherever possible, including at R2L at 8.45am every morning.

Examinations 2021

I am expecting the consultation to go live for this tomorrow. I will comment in more detail in my letter next week once the consultation is underway and I have a greater sense of the proposed strategy.

Year 13 parents' evening

This evening is scheduled for 20 January and we will be contacting you imminently for you to be able to make appointments.

Vocational examinations in Years 11, 12 and 13

The current examination series is progressing well with good levels of attendance. There has been an initial indication from the examination boards for this set of subjects that they intend to run a summer series. As a result, students should not opt in and out of different subjects. I refer to my letter of last week where I cannot guarantee a grade for any student in a vocational subject who does not sit the examination due to the lack of national guidance.

Careers interviews for Year 11 and 13 students

Interviews will continue remotely during the lockdown. Students in Year 11 and 13, in particular, should look out for their invitation to a Teams meeting via email.

Sixth form applications

Given the national lockdown and the uncertainties created by the current pandemic, I have decided to open up the sixth form application round again. We have received some enquiries from youngsters who now wish to continue their studies with us as it provides more stability and certainty for them at a very changeable time. Should your child wish to consider this, please contact sixthform@srpa.co.uk for more information.



Head Teacher: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020 📠 01522 880660
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

"This is a calm, happy and caring school."

Personal Development (all year groups)

Over the last 3 weeks of this term, there are a number of planned activities to support the personal development of students in all year groups.

Details of student skills development webinars will be shared by our Year 10, 11 and KS5 tutor teams. These are perfect for students as they start to think about the skills they need for the world of work.

In each session, employers and employees will explain why each skill is so important and how students can develop them:

- Leadership development - Mon 25 January, 4.30pm
- Digital skills development - Tue 26 January, 4.30pm
- Problem solving skills development - Wed 27 January, 4.30pm
- Entrepreneurship skills - Thu 28 January, 4.30pm
- Communication and presenting skills development - Tue 2 February, 4.30pm

Students can sign up now via the **Webinars tool** on their Student homepage of the Unifrog website.

To support our parents with Year 13 youngsters, we have booked in a session with Lincoln University to talk them through student finance. This will take place virtually on 19 January at 6.30pm. Mrs Parker will be in touch with joining details but, for those parents who cannot attend, we will be sharing a recording of the presentation too.

In addition to this, our Year 10 students will be taking part in a Staying Safe Day on 21 January. On this day, their normal timetable will drop down and they will have online workshops. This will feature a mixture of videos and interactive activities which students can access online from home, with each module including an assessment at the end which students must pass in order to complete. Students will achieve a certificate for completing each of the 5 modules to evidence their learning through the programme.

Finally, our Personal Development Day will go ahead as planned on 2 February. All normal lessons for the day will be dropped down to focus on students' personal development. This term, we are having a huge health and wellbeing focus, where we will set our students a number of challenges to make sure they are looking after themselves mentally and physically. More details to follow next week.



Head Teacher: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020 📠 01522 880660
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

"This is a calm, happy and caring school."

Free School Meals

Vouchers will continue to be provided by SRPA and we have no intention to move to food parcels. If you have been keeping up with the headlines this week you will have seen the current furore surrounding this issue. I have never been a fan of externally sourced food parcels for this reason.

SEND clinics

In an effort to further support our students, we are offering weekly SEND clinic sessions that you will be able to book in advance if you wish to speak to the SENCO. Mr Adlington, Executive SENCO, will be available during these bookable sessions via Microsoft Teams and will be able to meet with you to discuss any SEND related concerns you may have. Your child is more than welcome to join the session too if necessary.

The timings of the weekly SEND clinic will be as follows:

Monday 9:00-10:00.

Tuesday 14:15-15:15.

The SEND clinics will be available at the same times every week beginning **Monday 18 January 2021**. The sessions will be held in 15 minute intervals so if you would like to book a 15 minute meeting with Mr Adlington during these times then please email your request to SENDSCO@srpa.co.uk.

We will contact to confirm your meeting is booked.

Finally, we are also offering a student specific session for your child to book if they wish to do so. Here, they will have the chance to speak to a member of the SEND team and ask any SEND related support questions they may have. If your child would like to book one of these student specific sessions, please can they contact JBurr@srpa.co.uk and the meeting will be arranged for them.

EPlatform digital library

Don't forget that students can access the eLibrary via the app available on Android, Apple and Microsoft by accessing the app and then searching for our Academy before logging in. Alternatively, our online library can be found here: <https://srpa.eplatform.co/>

I know a few students have already been mentioning to staff in library lessons that they have been browsing on the new online library, which is great!



Head Teacher: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020 📠 01522 880660
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

"This is a calm, happy and caring school."

As long as students know their Academy email address and password, they will be able to log-in. They can do this via the link above or through the Library page on Frog. If you still have further questions and it is a technical issue, please contact IT support at ITsupport@srpa.co.uk. If it is a wider question about ePlatform, please contact Mrs Ransome in the library at mransome@srpa.co.uk or Mrs Murdoch at jmurdoch@srpa.co.uk.

This term has brought much uncertainty so far, and this is understandable as the lockdown continues. Whether it be around the theme of examinations, the length of the lockdown, the timing of hoped for vaccinations, quite a few things feel up in the air. At times like this I try to remain buoyant by reciting the words of American author Bob Goff: "Embrace uncertainty. Some of the most beautiful chapters in our lives won't have a title until much later."

We are in for some tough times over the next few weeks as a society, as a community and as regular folk. Remember, we are there with you.

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Hardy
Head Teacher



Head Teacher: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020 📞 01522 880660
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

"This is a calm, happy and caring school."