



28 May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Covid-19, SSLT appointments, Aspiration clinics, Goodbye to our examination year groups, equipment

As we approach the end of the half term and the late May bank holiday is just around the corner, I hope my final letter of May finds you well and looking forward to some time with your child over the break.

Covid-19

As our return from the lockdown is leading to a release of certain control measures, I intend to loosen our controls cautiously in line with this. From after half term, Years 12 and 10 will return to science lessons in normal labs in order to continue with the necessary practical work for their GCSE and post 16 qualifications. They will remain bubbled in the usual manner for the rest of their curriculum until I have guidance from central government in relation to a wider reopening planned from 21 June. I also promised a review of face masks at half term. As I write, there will be no return to masks in classrooms or in communal areas for students. It will continue to be recommended that staff and visitors wear face masks in areas where social distancing cannot be achieved.

Your child should have received their latest box of Covid-19 LFT home tests this week. If your child did not receive one, please ask them to tell their R2L tutor who can signpost them to the correct place.

Contact tracing will continue into the half term holiday for us. If your child tests positive for Covid-19 up until the evening of Sunday 30 May, please let us know using the usual email address below and we will contact trace from that point. From Monday 31 May, there is no need to contact us for the purposes of contact tracing. During the half term break, please follow the usual NHS guidelines.

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.

SSLT appointments

In my letter last week, I mentioned that I had held interviews with this year's candidates for the Student Senior Leadership Team. I am delighted to inform you that we appointed Millie B as our new Head Girl and Scott T as our new Head Boy. They will be ably supported by Allie S

and Rudi H as their respective Deputies. Allie will also lead on Personal Development and British Values. Rudi will also support our peer mentoring initiative.

Max T will take on the role of Chair of the group and will lead our Respect value agenda.

The following make up the rest of the team:

Emma H and Regan G will lead on Extra-curricular initiatives & Engagement

Lucy D will lead on Environment.

Lilly G becomes our Peer Mentor Lead.

Scarlet H becomes our Reflection Lead (Student Voice).

Rosie D will lead on Aspiration.

Jack R becomes our Community Lead.

Ryan D will lead on Promotions/Social Media.

This group of fine youngsters are going to be amazing in their new roles and, for those considering an application to UCAS for university places, these roles will prove very helpful. I am incredibly proud of all of them for their dedication, great ideas and energy. I intend to spend more time in the sixth form next year and look forward to working with them all.

Aspiration clinics

This new initiative has been established in order to support one of our core values and will be available to all of our students across the next academic year. Currently, Year 10 are attending in order to plan their next steps. It is never too early to be looking to your future. Over the next term and a half, every Year 10 student will have a one hour session where they will have the opportunity to explore the pathway they will take post 16 in order to be prepared once Year 11 begins.

Goodbye to our examination groups

I really hate May. This half term is always the busiest as we finalise any recruitment for September and because we have to say goodbye to our Year 13 and Year 11 students. I never look forward to it. After so long with us, I don't find it easy to let go. We always miss them when they have gone on to pastures new and we wish them the very best for the future in their many endeavours.

For Year 11, don't forget that support is still available via your Frog microsite for 'Year 11 support.'



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

Equipment

We remain proud of our students' return to the Academy post lockdown, as well as the efforts of our House teams in supporting them. In order to maximize the impact of their teaching and learning, we would ask that all youngsters arrive each day appropriately equipped. We have supported students with this to date but we would be grateful for your support in ensuring that your child has the essential items to access their learning successfully. All students require the following:

- Student Planner
- A black pen
- A pencil
- A green pen
- A ruler
- An eraser
- A compass
- A protractor
- A calculator

School equipment is also available from Student Reception.

In a week where we send our brightest and our best out into the big wide world, I am reminded of the fabulous works of the Brazilian novelist Paulo Coelho who said "If you're brave enough to say goodbye, life will reward you with a new hello."

For all of our students leaving us this week, we hope that you will keep in touch, will let us know how you are getting on and you change the world for the better where generations before you have missed the mark. Look to the stars and aim high. We will watch your achievements with great pride.

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Hardy
Head Teacher



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