

*Anchored in Christ*

Friday 18th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I can hardly believe we have been back at school for two full weeks now. Students have quickly settled back into their learning and into the routine of the Academy day. Uniform is excellent so thank you for all your support. We all know that the lack of routine and normality has been a real challenge for us all over the last six months and no more so than for younger students. I do want to congratulate all our students on such an excellent and positive start to the academic year. They have shown great maturity and understanding in adapting to the new routines and rules. Each morning the vast majority of students arrive punctually at their allocated time and sanitise their hands before going to coaching time. We know that the traffic is building up as more of us return to work and school, but in addition we have the challenges of local traffic and congestion issues. Please ensure your child leaves home in plenty of time to arrive at the Academy for 8.30 or if their arrival time is 8.40, at that time.

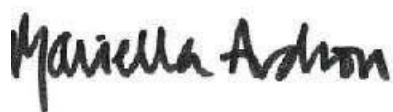
I have spent a lot of time in my first two weeks walking around and visiting lessons. Students are very much re-engaging with their learning and I am confident that with excellent attendance, outstanding teaching and some specific catch up strategies we can all work together and make up time missed from March to July.

Some important reminders:

- If your child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus which are: **a high temperature, a new continuous cough, a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste**; they must self isolate. Please get your child tested as soon as you can. They must remain at home until you have the results. If your child tests negative they may return to the Academy. If the result is positive they must continue to self isolate for 10 days from when symptoms first started. All other members of the household must self isolate for 14 days from when the infected person first displayed symptoms. If we are notified that a child has tested positive we will work with our local Health Protection Team and the DfE to decide how many other children in the year bubble need to be sent home to self isolate. All lessons are being uploaded onto Google classroom so that any student self isolating can access work.
- A reminder that students can choose to wear face masks in communal areas and in the classroom. These must be worn properly and not left hanging off one ear. Any inappropriate use of mask wearing will result in the student being asked to remove their mask.
- All **Independent Learning** (homework) is now assigned via your child/children's **Google Classroom**. Across the academy, the G-Suite (Google Classroom) is our main hub for all online learning and support. Guidance for parent(s)/carer(s) will be launched very soon available on our website to access in your own time. Smarthomework will no longer be used as an online tool for I.L.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Mariella Ardron  
Principal