



**Magna Academy**

**Poole**

an Aspirations Academy

Principal: Ms N Ullah

✉ Ashdown Close, Canford Heath, Poole, BH17 8RE

☎ 01202 604222

✉ office@magna-aspirations.org

🌐 www.magna-aspirations.org

🐦 @MagnaAcademy

31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been delighted with our students' efforts this term. Students have conducted themselves impeccably, demonstrating a positive attitude and have engaged fully with their lessons. On our return, attendance has continued to be excellent and above the national average. As you will be aware, attendance has a strong correlation with student well-being and their achievement at the end of year 11, so we would like to thank you for your ongoing support and encourage families to continue to work with us to ensure your child attends everyday in order for them to thrive.

### **Website**

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new website this week. Staff at the academy have worked incredibly hard over the last year developing the website so that it better caters for our students, families and wider community. As part of a wider Aspirations Academies Trust project the new website aims to share our vision, provide helpful information about the academy and provide details of how to access further information or support. The website has been previewed by groups of students, staff and our Parents Forum so far. Feedback from these groups has already been taken on board, however moving forward we are keen to further develop the website and will offer families an opportunity to feedback their thoughts later in the summer term. The new website will be available at <https://www.magna-aspirations.org/>. In the meantime we do hope you find the website informative and helpful.

### **Women in History Month**

Across the month of March we have been celebrating Women in History Month. Students have had the opportunity to take part in thought-provoking discussions surrounding the role of gender in the workplace and the dangers of looking at events through one perspective as well as looking at what lessons we can learn from resilient women from the past. To finish off the month, we have invited students to take part in a competition to write a biography of a resilient woman which could either be from students' own families and social networks, or a famous figure. We hope this will enable us to celebrate the resilience and strength of women in the local community as well as those further afield. All entries can be submitted on the allocated Google classroom and the winner will receive a Kindle Fire.

### **Letter to students**

Last Friday, the Secretary of State for Education [wrote](#) to all young people to thank them for the part they have all played in helping us fight coronavirus. In the letter, the Secretary of State recognises the significant disruption that children and young people have experienced in their education over the past year and the challenges they have faced as a result. He thanks young people for the resilience they have shown.

### **Home testing during the Easter holiday**

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme the government has stated that it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term. Both staff and students are being encouraged to continue to test twice a week at home and report positive, negative or void results using the report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result portal.

Please can I remind parents/carers that their children should undertake a test at home before returning to the academy for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, Tuesday 20th April, to find and isolate any positive cases within our community.

### **Covid-19 Contact Tracing**

For the purposes of contact tracing staff, students, parents and carers need only inform the academy of a positive case if the symptoms develop within 2 days of being onsite. The academy will assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst they were onsite. If symptoms develop after 2 days, we do not need to be informed. The academy email: [office@magna-aspirations.org](mailto:office@magna-aspirations.org) will be monitored daily up until Wednesday 7th April.

Where students test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) during the holidays using an LFD test more than 2 days after being on site, Parents/Carer's will only need to inform the academy if they will still be self-isolating when we return on Tuesday 20th April by telephoning the student absence line on 01202 606890.

### **Covid 19 roadmap**

As you will be aware, earlier this week the rules on social contact, business and activities, and travel have changed as part of the [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) roadmap](#). For instance outdoor gatherings (including in private gardens) of either 6 people (the rule of 6) or 2 households are allowed, making it easier for friends and families to meet outside. We hope this will enable our families to spend some well-deserved quality time together. However, please do spend some time to review this guidance and discuss it with your child as although the 'stay at home' rule has ended, many other restrictions will remain in place to continue to keep us all safe.



**ASPIRATIONS**



National Teaching School  
designated by  
  
National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

National Support School  
designated by  
  
National College for  
Teaching & Leadership



## House System

During the Autumn Term we launched a competition to name the newly established houses within the academy, this was open to both students and staff within the academy community. I am pleased to announce that the winning names were suggested by a current year 11 tutor group who were tasked with researching influential people from our local area. 11NST came up with the following names:

Mary Anning (Anning House) – Current green house

William Henry Fox Talbot (Talbot House) – Current purple house

Augusta Webster (Webster House) – Current red house

11NST have created something that they can leave as a lasting legacy, the three individuals chosen possess different characteristics and personality traits that encourage individuals to thrive to be the best versions of themselves, something we endeavour to do here at Magna Academy.

Over the next few months we will start to embed these house names and develop the individual characteristics and values within the academy. Students will be heavily involved in the promotion of these houses and will continue to represent them in everything they do, whether it's through their exceptional conduct around the academy or representing their house in the numerous competitions, each student will have their part to play.

## Enrichment

Following the changes in guidance for wrap around care within schools, we would like to offer a number of different enrichment activities. Enrichment activities will run after the academy day (until 4pm), with activities such as Football Club and STEM Club on offer. If you would like your child to sign up to any of the sessions we offer, please complete the [Google form](#) identifying the specific sessions you would like your child to attend. Week six of each remaining unit will be used for house sport competitions, these will be advertised in advance.

## Futures Programme

Please [click here](#) to view the second edition of the Futures Newsletter. In this edition there is a wealth of information and guidance for students interested in a future career in healthcare. I am also delighted to share the details of how our students can register to be part of the Medical Mavericks Academy. The Medical Mavericks Academy is an online platform where students, teachers and parents can access amazing resources that promote STEM subjects, showcase the huge range of careers in the NHS and provide meaningful careers guidance with virtual work experience that helps students make more informed career choices. Furthermore, you can learn about the demand for healthcare workers in Dorset and find out about the opportunities to take part in online insight days to learn about careers in Dorset's Allied Healthcare Partnership.



**ASPIRATIONS**



**National Teaching School**  
designated by



National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

**National Support School**  
designated by



National College for  
Teaching & Leadership



### **Year 11 and 13 Progress check 3**

Year 11 and 13 will be sitting their progress check 3 assessments from Tuesday 4th May to Friday 14th May. Students who are entitled to access arrangements will also have this in place for these assessments, so that they are not disadvantaged. It is really important that students fully prepare for these assessments over the Easter holidays, utilising the effective revision strategies that have been delivered during tutor time. It is important that students realise that during this period and beyond, up until they leave Magna Academy, every piece of work that they complete ranging from assessments, classwork to homework can be, and will be used as evidence when teachers are making decisions on each student's final grades. It is therefore essential that each student continues to work to the best of their ability, right up until the time that they leave. To support this, our Year 11 Raising Attainment Programme will continue from Tuesday 20th April, commencing on a week 1 rotation.

### **Road safety**

Over the last couple of weeks we have been made aware that a small number of students cycling/scooting to the academy have not done so safely. We strongly advise that students wear a helmet at all times that they are cycling/scooting to and from the academy. We also advise that students regularly have their bikes/scooters serviced to ensure roadworthiness and that reflective clothing is worn and lights are attached to bikes/scooters during the winter months.

It has been brought to our attention that some individuals have exhibited somewhat reckless cycling/scooting not far from the academy. This involves weaving in and out of traffic, pulling out in front of vehicles and cycling/scooting on public walkways instead of pushing their bike/scooter. Whilst this behaviour is not happening on the academy premises, or during academy hours, the safety and wellbeing of our students and families accessing other local schools is our number one priority. Individuals who are seen or reported as being reckless will receive a written warning. If behaviour is not corrected then their bike/scooter will be confiscated and their parents/carer will need to collect the bike/scooter from the academy with further disciplinary action being taken for any future reckless behaviour.

All students cycling/scooting to the academy are required to use the designated year group zones within Academy to ensure the safety of their bikes/scooters. The bike/scooter must be accompanied with a lock as no responsibility can be taken for bikes/scooters that are not locked within the academy designated zone.

Warmest wishes for this Easter break, we look forward to welcoming our students back to the academy on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April.



**ASPIRATIONS**



**National Teaching School**  
designated by



National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

**National Support School**  
designated by



National College for  
Teaching & Leadership



Yours sincerely



Ms N Ullah  
Principal

**Useful dates**

- 19.04.21 – Inset Day (academy closed to students)
- 20.04.21 - GCSE Options launch to Year 9
- 30.04.21 - GCSE Option deadline for Year 9
- 03.05.21 - Bank Holiday
- 04.05.21 - Years 11 & 13 Progress Check 3 begins
- 14.05.21 - Years 11 & 13 Progress Check 3 ends



**ASPIRATIONS**



**National Teaching School**  
designated by



National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

**National Support School**  
designated by



National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

