



9th December 2021

Dear Parent and Carer,

Despite the many challenges we have faced this term, our students have continued to go above and beyond, both within the classroom and through their enrichment activities. For instance, Lewis McNeil has successfully secured a place on the Industry led Young Technicians Programme at the Lighthouse, Poole. Within sport, our teams have been exemplary when representing the academy. Our Year 8 boys football team achieved their first win of the season coming from behind and our Year 7 boys had a fantastic 7-1 victory in their second win of the season. In our Senior Maths Challenge, ten Year 12 students competed and gained awards in this national competition. In addition, GCSE Geography students have undertaken fieldwork at Swanage, Post 16 Biologists have visited Studland and selected Year 9 students have visited AFC Bournemouth as part of the Inspires Programme.

At Christmas we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Hall (Head of Technology/Deputy Senco) and Mrs Potter (Head of Biology). Mrs Hall is following her dream of living in the Lake District where she will become a Head of Technology in a large secondary academy. Mrs Potter will be able to spend more time with her children and achieve a better balance of family and work by working closer to her home. We wish both of them all the best in their new roles.

Christmas Caboodle

After a successful event last year, the student leadership team have once again organised Magna's alternative to the Christmas jumper day. Whilst still raising money for Save the Children, our students will be able to accessorise their uniforms by wearing one Christmassy item, for example a Christmas jumper, tie, Christmassy earrings (not hoops) or stripey elf tights. Please can I emphasise that students must be in full academy uniform, adding or exchanging only one item. Blazers must still be worn and must not be the item they exchange. Once again, we hope for a very successful and enjoyable last day of term.

In addition to this, students will be dismissed earlier on Friday 17th December. The year group departures will be staggered from 12:45pm-1pm, with our eldest students leaving first.

Magna's Giving Back

Another initiative being led by our Student Leadership Team, is called 'Magna's Giving Back'. This is another charitable contribution, but this time to those most in need on our doorstep. We are asking our students to donate food (tins, dried foods etc.), baby clothes, toiletries and small unopened toys, as part of the Community Fridge campaign run by the Canford Heath Community Centre. Donations will be collected from tutor classrooms. The deadline for donations is Wednesday 15th December, allowing time to collate and distribute the items collected.

Testing over Christmas

Students may wish to take a rapid lateral flow test at home in situations where they are more likely to catch or spread COVID-19. This includes spending time in crowded and enclosed spaces, or before visiting people who are at higher risk of severe illness if they catch COVID-19. Home test kits have continued to be distributed from the academy and will be again during the final week of term. Students should also test at home the night or morning before they return to the academy in the New Year.

January Return to the Academy

The government has asked that all secondary schools offer their students one Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test onsite, at the beginning of the Spring term. Asymptomatic testing is a critical tool to help prevent transmission of COVID-19. Testing is important because as many as one in three people who contract the virus show no symptoms, so could be spreading the virus unknowingly. Testing all staff and students without symptoms will support us to operate as safely as possible by isolating those that are the most contagious as soon as is practical, which supports the continuation of face-to-face education.

Asymptomatic testing is done via simple and quick LFD tests. They enable us to rapidly test students, without the need for a laboratory. No test is 100% accurate, but the LFD, when done as part of a testing regime, is very good at picking up those with high viral loads (i.e. those that are the most contagious).

As a result we will once again complete onsite testing for all our students (Year 7 through to 13) as part of our return to the academy in January.

Below is a table that explains which day your child can be tested and also what day they will return. Students in years 11, 10 and 9 will be tested in the morning of the day they return and will remain in the academy for the rest of that day as normal. Students in years 7 and 8 will arrive at their allocated time, return home after their test and start the following day at the normal time.



ASPIRATIONS



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Year Group	Lateral Flow Test Date	First Full Day
Post 16	Wednesday 5th January at 8:27am	Wednesday 5th January at 8:27am
Year 11	Wednesday 5th January at 8:27am	Wednesday 5th January at 8:27am
Year 7	<p>Wednesday 5th January at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7LCS at 12:35pm • 7ACK at 1pm • 7PSD at 1:25pm • 7EJN at 1:50pm • 7JSH at 2:15pm • 7IRL at 2:40pm <p>Your child will return home after their test.</p>	Thursday 6th January at 8:27am
Year 10	Thursday 6th January at 8:27am	Thursday 6th January at 8:27am
Year 8	<p>Thursday 6th January at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8VSY at 12:35pm • 8CFA at 1pm • 8ATR at 1:25pm • 8KCS at 1:50pm • 8KMD at 2:15pm • 8JHS at 2:40pm <p>Your child will return home after their test.</p>	Friday 7th January at 8:27am
Year 9	Friday 7th January at 8:27am	Friday 7th January at 8:27am

As has been the case for all previous testing, all of our onsite testing will be conducted by staff known to the students, with experience of administering the tests alongside them. We are asking all parents/carers to complete a new consent form as some of the information may now be out of date. If you wish for your child to receive a lateral flow test at the academy when they return, please complete the attached [consent form](#). Details of our privacy notice can also be found [here](#).

The guidance is that your child will not need to test if they have received a positive test result within 90 days prior to the test.

Thank you for all your continued support this term. We wish you all a very safe and restful Christmas break. Best wishes for the New Year.

Yours sincerely



Ms N Ullah
Principal