



Magna Academy

Poole

an Aspirations Academy

Principal: Ms N Ullah

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28th May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

The summer term so far has been a real journey towards more typical academy life. Whilst the pandemic has certainly presented us with many challenges, some of the resulting changes have actually been positive for the academy. One example of this would be having a split lunch time where Years 7-9 have a separate lunch time to the older years. Not only has this given us calmer and more enjoyable lunchtimes, it has also provided the students with more space outside and once further restrictions are lifted students will have even greater choice to enjoy their lunch inside using the dining hall, library and other designated spaces.

Covid-19

With Year 11 and 13 students not on the academy site after half-term we will be able to start more teaching within specialist rooms and areas for all other year groups. This does mean that for the time being we will continue to ask both students and staff to wear a face covering in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot be guaranteed. We feel this is an important step in moving towards students experiencing the full range of curriculum opportunities. It will also give our Year 7 students a chance to adjust to a more normal secondary life before the academy is full again in September.

The local health protection board shared with us yesterday that there are very low rates of infection locally (4.2 per 1000 people). Whilst we recognise we are fortunate, we will still continue to maintain our other control measures in order to ensure this remains the case. Students on their return after half-term will be reminded about the importance of maintaining high standards of hygiene. The enhanced cleaning routines will also remain in place.

Over the half-term break home testing should continue and we ask that all families record positive, negative or void results using the report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result [portal](#).

Where students test positive for COVID-19 during half-term, having developed symptoms more than two days after being in the academy, no action is needed in terms of informing the academy. However, where students test positive having developed symptoms within two

days of being in the academy please inform us by emailing the office office@magna-aspirations.org. This email address is monitored daily throughout the holidays.

If your child will still be self-isolating when we return on Monday 7th June please leave a message on our student absence line: 01202 606890.

Maths Challenge

The Junior Mathematical Challenge is a 60-minute, multiple-choice competition aimed at Year 7 and 8 students across the UK. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems. The problems on the Junior Mathematical Challenge are designed to make students think. Most are accessible, yet still challenge those with more experience.

We are delighted to announce that the academy has once again been successful in achieving four silver and thirteen bronze certificates. We also need to congratulate our top performer in Year 7, Alfie Wheeler and in Year 8, Harry Stewart who also claims the award for best in academy. Many thanks to Mr Stoddart who organised this student competition.

Year 10

We will be returning to the normal start time of 8.27am for all year groups when we return, as we have gained space from Year 11 leaving. The academy gate will close at 8:27am and so students should arrive before this and line-up in their designated areas. The Year 10 line up area will be directly in front of the students entrance, tutors will be waiting to greet them each morning.

We are delighted to be able to offer our Year 10 students a change in location to their break and lunch area which will become the privileged area enjoyed by Year 11 since the beginning of this academic year. They will now be able to enjoy both the indoor and outdoor space of the quad and plaza area and will continue to purchase their food from the Dining Hall. Students will also have the use of the AstroTurf to play sport during their lunch break, providing the weather remains dry.

As restrictions continue to ease and we continue to move the academy setting to as normal as possible we will be asking year 10 students to wear full, correct uniform each day, only bringing their PE kits on the days they have a practical PE lesson, please see below:

10DC – Week one Wednesday and Friday, Week two Wednesday and Thursday

10M – Week one Tuesday and Thursday, Week two Monday and Thursday

As the Year 10's will be the only year group using the changing rooms for practical PE lessons, it allows us to remain Covid compliant. This will be monitored and reviewed during the next half term.



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In addition GCSE PE and BTEC Sport students will need to bring their PE kit when instructed to do so by their PE Teacher. Please ensure your child wears the full correct uniform each day. As a reminder, our uniform policy can be found [here](#).

Year 10 Raising Attainment

We are continuing with our Raising Attainment programme after half term. As previously communicated, this has been introduced earlier than in previous years due to the national lockdown that took place during the spring term. Regular attendance at these sessions is vital to ensure that any gaps in knowledge that may have appeared during the national lockdown are addressed swiftly. Subject teachers will be recommending specific students to attend and will be in contact with parents/carers as well. However, all students are welcome to attend to enhance their progress within their subjects. This subject intervention has been a positive contribution to our previous GCSE outcomes.

Year 10 RA sessions will continue until the end of term, please see timetable below:

	Week 1	Week 2
Monday		Science
Tuesday		Geography and History
Wednesday	English	Art and Drama
Thursday	French and Spanish	Photography, PE, Music and Sport
Friday		Maths

Lunchtime Activities

We are now able to offer students activities on our AstroTurf at lunchtimes. These sessions will allow students to borrow equipment in exchange for a personal item e.g a phone or house key. Students who wish to use this facility must meet staff at the gate on the back playground within the first 5 minutes of their lunch break, before entering the AstroTurf they must change into trainers and there will be no eating in this area. Students who do not wish to play must remain in their normal designated areas.

Enrichment Activities

Students have really enjoyed the return of our enrichment activities since the Easter break. There will be some changes to our offer after half term. Please take a look to see what is on offer by visiting our enrichment section of the academy website. If there is an activity your child would like to sign up for, please complete the Google Form [here](#).

Year 11

It was sad to say goodbye to our Year 11 and 13 students this week. Both year groups, as always, proved that they are remarkable and mature young adults. On their last day in the academy they conducted themselves in an exemplary manner, living up to our high expectations. For those in Year 11 who will be joining us in September as part of our Sixth Form, we will be in communication shortly after half term with transition information. The transition pack contains the summer preparation tasks for completion prior to the start of the new academic year. This will be emailed to students and also available on the academy website. Further information regarding our transition week, taking place from the 5th - 8th July, will also be shared. Please look out for this.

Finally, I have attached our latest [online safety newsletter](#). I hope that all our families have an enjoyable half-term break.

Yours sincerely



Ms N Ullah
Principal

Monday 31st May - Bank holiday

Tuesday 1st - Friday 4th June - Summer half-term

Thursday 22nd July - End of summer term

Tuesday 10th August - GCSE Results Day

Thursday 12th August - A Level Results Day

Thursday 2nd September - Staff Inset Day

Friday 3rd September - Year 7 and Year 12 Induction Day

Monday 6th September - Year 8, Year 9, Year 10, Year 11 and Year 13 return to the academy



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