



16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we are nearing the end of this academic year I wanted to spread out information across two end of term letters in order to give families more notice of Covid related changes and avoid information overload. Next week, in addition to my end of term letter, I will also be sending separate correspondence to update families on staffing changes for the next academic year as we've made fantastic appointments that I would like to share with you all.

**Covid update**

Despite the Prime Minister's most recent announcement and taking into account our local context we have made the decision to retain all current Covid control measures within the academy. This means that until the end of term, students and staff are asked to continue to wear face coverings indoors, in communal areas such as corridors.

As you may be aware, recently updated government guidance states that all secondary school and college students should be offered two on-site Lateral Flow Device tests; 3 to 5 days apart, on their return in the autumn term. Therefore, we have had to amend our plans for our students' return in September to accommodate this large scale on-site mass testing programme. In order to give families as much notice as possible I have shared an outline of our plans below. More detailed information regarding each student's specific testing times will follow next week.

Year Group	First Test Date (returning home after test)	Return Date (8:27am) and second test
Year 7	Thursday 2nd September	Monday 6th September
Year 8	Monday 6th September	Thursday 9th September
Year 9	Tuesday 7th September	Friday 10th September
Year 10	Friday 3rd September	Wednesday 8th September
Year 11	Friday 3rd September	Tuesday 7th September
Year 12	Thursday 2nd September	Monday 6th September
Year 13	Thursday 2nd September	Tuesday 7th September

Students and staff receive regular reminders of the continued importance of hygiene including the use of sanitisers. Please can you support us with reinforcing this message at home. In addition, our increased cleaning routines remain in place and we have asked all staff to keep the academy well ventilated. The senior team and site team will continue to conduct routine checks to ensure compliance.

Please see the attached letter regarding changes in contact tracing.

### **Enrichment**

Students have enjoyed the return of enrichment opportunities this term. It has been lovely to see so many students actively participating and engaging with a range of different clubs. A particular highlight of the enrichment calendar this year has been 'The Magna Cook Off'. Students that entered cooked a dish of their choice, these dishes were judged by staff and the top three students from each night moved on to the final. Jake Lane in Year 10 won overall with a delicious lamb dish, he's definitely one to keep an eye on in the future, a budding Master Chef contender. After the return of competitive team sports, students have taken part in House competitions, showing a real sense of pride and belonging when representing their house. Students again have an opportunity to earn house points by being involved in our annual sports day, which has been held today. Staff have commented on the students enthusiasm towards learning something new and have praised the students for the efforts. We are already preparing for a new enrichment offer starting in September.

Please read all about our recent Year 8 Street Art workshop [here](#).

### **Year 10 and 12 Futures**

A highlight of this academic year has been observing Year 10 and 12 students engage so well with the Futures events this week. I was fortunate to eavesdrop on a number of interviews where our Year 10 and 12 students gave their absolute best. The academy invited 11 external employers including our enterprise advisor from LUSH and his HR team. We were very grateful to representatives from Bournemouth University and parents of Magna students who also took part. Feedback from our visitors was overwhelmingly positive. Despite many of our students feeling nervous about speaking to someone they did not know, they came out smiling, stating how they enjoyed the experience and how they found it beneficial. The interviewers commented on how exceptionally polite our students were and how many of them already had interesting ideas of what they wanted to do Post 16 and beyond in their future careers.

Ultimately our students did both the academy and themselves proud. They had been prepared well and supported by tutors and this enabled them to take advantage of this excellent opportunity.

### **Nut Free Academy**

Magna Academy has a legal duty to make arrangements for supporting students at the academy with medical conditions such as nut allergies. As you will know the Academy has been nut free since 2016.

Please can I ask for your support in ensuring no student brings peanuts and tree nuts to the academy. The following nuts are tree nuts and cannot be brought to the academy: walnuts, almonds, pecans, hazelnuts, cashews, pistachios, Brazil nuts, pine nuts, macadamia nuts. This includes products such as brunch bars and biscuits which contain these nuts.

Bringing nut based products into the academy not only puts students with allergies at serious risk but also defies academy policy and will be treated seriously using the academy behaviour policy.

### **Newsletters**

There is now a wide array of activities underway in the academy each term. In order to do justice to our students' achievements and to offer families more detailed information and guidance we have introduced a series of academy newsletters. Our three frequent newsletters focus on Futures (Careers education, information, advice and guidance), STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and Online Safety. All newsletters can be accessed on our academy website or by clicking [here](#).

Yours sincerely



Ms N Ullah  
Principal

