

Friday 7 January 2022

Dear Families,

Happy New Year. It has been a successful start to 2022 at All Saints: I've already had the opportunity to speak to Year 11s who are revising hard for upcoming exams; to see Year 7s who are in early to work on Sparx; and be impressed with Year 9s moving from Macbeth to Motor Vehicle Studies with the same level of dedication across subjects.

I feel truly privileged to be working within your community and look forward to meeting some of you at upcoming parents evenings. I hope the information below is a useful reminder of key school policies.

Covid-19 measures

As per my previous letter, students are now required to wear masks in lessons and in communal areas around the school. The students have responded so well to the new guidance and are clearly committed to keeping each other safe.

In the event of a partial / whole school closure, we would like to make sure that we have a full understanding of any particular needs in the event of a return to home schooling. If you do not have access to a device or a suitable internet connection to complete work at home, please can you complete the form below as soon as you are able.

<https://forms.gle/iavnYqxeJBYvLz3M8>

Lateral Flow Testing

Thank you to those students that attended the lateral flow testing on Tuesday, this went smoothly and has helped to ensure a safe return to school. Please can you now recommence twice weekly testing of students at home. As previously, we recommend that these are done prior to school on a Monday and midweek. Lateral flow tests have been distributed via your child's tutor. Please be aware that the new lateral flow tests are slightly different (both nostrils, rather than back of the throat and one nostril) and have different reaction times so please follow the instructions included within the test kits.

As before, results should be reported via the following link www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

From 11 January in England, people who receive positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

This is a temporary measure while COVID-19 rates remain high across the UK. Whilst levels of COVID-19 are high, the vast majority of people with positive LFD results can be confident that they have COVID-19.

School Closure

We are holding our Year 11 parents evening on **Monday 10th January from 2.20pm to 6.30pm**. In order to prepare, the **School will be closed to all students, from 2pm.** Please be aware of this change to the usual school day if you need to collect your child/ren from school or pre-arrange child care.

Attendance

All students must be at school so that they can access the education they rightfully deserve. Whilst we acknowledge that Covid-19 is still very much a pressing concern, it is crucial that every child attends school every day.

For students with significant absence, the Educational Welfare Office (EWO) will become involved and this may result in legal action. Our EWO is Natalie Scott who is employed by the Educational Welfare Service for the Ted Wragg Trust.

If you have received an attendance letter from Mr J Buchanan or one of the pastoral team and you want more information (i.e. regarding medical evidence for absence) then please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.

Uniform

Our uniform expectations can be found in our behavior policy and we want to ensure that our expectations remain high and consistent until the end of this academic year. To that end, please can I remind you that:

- Blazers should always be worn to school, in transition around school and at the start and end of each lesson. Students may remove their blazers at lunch and during lessons once they have asked permission from the staff member.
- Nose piercings (of any kind) should not be worn.
- False nails should not be worn.
- Shirts must always be tucked in.
- Formal, black, polishable school shoes must be worn.
- No jewellery other than a single stud in each ear, no larger than 4mm in diameter.

Please can students also ensure that they have the correct equipment (pen, pencil, ruler, rubber and pencil case) each day.

If there is any infringement of the expectations above, this may result in home being contacted to return home and rectify the issue or the student spending the day in the Lighthouse if they refuse to comply/use uniform provided by the Academy.

Detentions

Homework detentions will be issued to students who miss their homework deadline. All homework detentions will last 1 hour. During this time student's will have the opportunity to complete the missing homework and revise core subject knowledge using their Need to Know booklet.

The homework timetable and guidance on how to complete homework can be found on page 2 of the Need to Know booklets.

The Need to Know booklets can also be found on our school website or by clicking on this link <https://www.asap.org.uk/need-to-know-booklets/>.

Safeguarding

Your child's safety and well-being remain our priority. If you have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing and wish to contact us, please use safeguarding@asap.org.uk.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is James Buchanan (Senior Deputy Headteacher). Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Rachel Turner (SENDSCO) and Karen Maher (Safeguarding Coordinator). Kathy Hyde, Kirsty Liddell, Chris Bosley and Allison Ham (our Deputy Heads of House) can also be contacted.

If you're worried about a child or young person and believe they are at risk of harm, even if you're unsure, call 01752 668000 or email gateway@plymouth.gov.uk or outside of normal working hours call Plymouth Out of Hours Service on 01752 346984.

The Gateway service is made up of multi-agency professionals who can give you advice, information and support. You can also contact the NSPCC if you want to talk to someone about your concerns and get advice.

Kind regards,

Scott Simpson-Horne
Headteacher