

02.03.21

Dear Y11 Families,

We are really excited about all of Y11 coming back to school on Monday 8th March. To allow us to complete the COVID testing, we need to stagger the start time that your child will come to school. Please see the table below for the time they must arrive on Monday 8th. Your child will need to come in their school uniform and bring their usual academy equipment with them; a reminder that they should only bring permitted items with them into the academy:

- Locker key
- Planner
- School bag
- 100% folder
- DEAR book
- Books needed for lessons
- Clear pencil case: 2 black pens, 2 green pens, their prism, ruler, pencil, rubber

Monday 8th March: line up socially distanced in usual entrance routine (Y11 entrance)

Year Group	Time
11 A	08.30
11 B	09.30
11 X	10.30
11 Y	11.40

On Tuesday 9th March until 25th March, Year 11 will come to the academy at 08.20am and then a reminder of the usual finish times: Monday – Wednesday 16.00, Thursday 12.40 and Friday 15.00. I will review the start time at Easter.

Thursday 11th March

On the first Thursday back, all of Year 11 will be required to stay until 15.00 to enable us to get through the second round of COVID testing.

Thursdays until Easter break

Although we will be closing at lunchtime until Easter to all other Year groups, Year 11 will have the option to stay until 15.00 to revise in the Heart Space. We will provide lunch to all of those scholars who choose to stay. Please speak with your child about this. We will be asking for confirmation in advance.

Masks

A reminder that the new government guidance is that masks are worn as a default indoors, meaning that scholars will now have to wear masks in the classroom as an added protection for themselves and staff.

Behaviour and safety

Please could you speak with your child before they return about the importance of following staff instructions at the academy. We will be speaking with the children about safety and following staff instructions, but it would be great if families can reinforce this message with their children also.



COVID symptoms

A reminder that if your child is displaying any COVID symptoms, they must not come to school. Please call the academy on 01274 424350 to let us know to not expect your child in the academy.

COVID Testing

If your child has had a positive COVID test in the last 90 days, it is advised by Public Health England that they do not take a Lateral Flow Test as this could return a false positive. If you have consented and think this applies to your child please email info@dixonsma.com

Parking and parent social distancing

Can I please politely remind all families to abide by the parking rules and not park directly outside or on the double yellow lines surrounding the academy. Families raised this as an issue on the recent parent survey. We need to ensure we all do our bit to ensure the safety of our community and parking around the school is very much a community responsibility. A reminder too to ensure you are social distancing at the start and the end of the day and particularly if you are approaching a member of staff to talk to them. Thank you in advance.

Year 11 exams

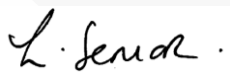
I will be writing to Year 11 families with an overview of how GCSE grades will be awarded this year. We will be working to make sure, as always, that our systems are robust and fair. The main message from me to scholars is to keep on working hard and ensure they are 100% focussed in lessons and on their revision. Learning is not just about grades, it is about ensuring they have the knowledge to go on and succeed at Post 16. I know our scholars will do their best as they always do.

Final thank you

The first two weeks back in particular are going to be busy and a challenge for us at school. Staff who are supporting the COVID testing will not be fulfilling their usual roles and therefore please bear with us if service in some areas is not as quick as normal; this involves any staff responses to emails as they may be supporting with COVID testing all day and may not be checking emails as regularly as they usually do. Please can I ask that you bear this in mind.

Finally, I would like to thank all families for their amazing support this year. I know this has been a challenging time for families. You have done a great job and I am so pleased that we are working our way back to our usual routines and ways of working. We have missed our scholars and we cannot wait to welcome them back. If there are any questions, please contact your child's Advisor in the first instance or contact us on info@dixonsma.com.

Kindest regards,



Laura Senior
Principal

