

Ref: KHO/076/20-21

19 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We have completed the final lateral flow tests within the academy this week. All pupils returning to the academy have been offered three tests which we believe will put them in a very strong and confident position to continue testing at home going forward. I am immensely grateful to our testing team, led by Mr White, who have worked tirelessly to train, set up, organise and lead our in-school testing programme so professionally and efficiently. Thank you

Testing

All pupils in school have now received at-home testing kits, together with a step-by-step guide for self-testing. The following video about home testing has also been shown to our pupils <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo>

- The guidance states that pupils should use the test twice each week. We would like pupils to test on a Sunday and on a Wednesday.
- If pupils get a positive result, as well as registering the result with the test and trace website, you must also telephone school immediately or email info@davidnieper.academy to let us know.
- If pupils get a positive result, they and the rest of your household must begin to self-isolate.
 - You must also book a confirmatory PCR test. This can be through a test centre or a postal test.
 - If the result of this is positive, they must continue to self-isolate in-line with national guidance. If the result of this is negative, please contact school as pupils will then be able to return.

Pupils must not attend school if they are displaying any Covid-19 symptoms. The most common symptoms of coronavirus (Covid-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Employability in Action

Following their return to school, Year 8 have been designing their own app to promote Louby's Bakeaway, a local business in Alfreton that is now operating from home. Pupils have worked in groups to produce an app using the software 'Appshed', whilst enhancing their employability skills such as teamwork, communication and creativity. Next week, students will present their finished app and the overall winner will liaise with the owner of the business to potentially develop this app on Apple and Android.



Well done to all pupils for their participation in this exciting employer-based project!

(Pupils on the photo are Grace, Summer-Leigh and Ella)

Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 11 mock exams start on Monday 22nd March until Thursday 1st April. We are very pleased with how Year 11 have settled back into their classes this week and are looking forward to working with them on their mocks. It is important to attend every day and that all pupils have the right equipment for each exam in order to allow them to be able to demonstrate their full knowledge and understanding.

Year 9 Options process

All Year 9 pupils had the opportunity to attend four different subject taster sessions today so that they were able to experience what a GCSE lesson in these subjects will be like. Pupils seemed to be engaged with the sessions and were able to ask questions and gain an insight into what the GCSE will actually involve. Pupils will now move onto making their final subject choices. The option videos for each subject are still on our website if any pupils or parents would like to revisit these prior to making final choices. Many thanks to Mr Endacott and the staff who have worked very hard to create such a thorough and interactive options process.

Return of laptops

A reminder that pupils who have loaned laptops must return them to the academy as soon as possible, together with any charging cables, sleeves and cases etc. They are needed to support lessons in the academy.

Driving onto Site

Thank you for your support with our new procedures. Please be reminded that parents/carers should not be accessing the academy drive in cars at the start or end of the school day. The drive entrance gates are closed to all vehicles between 8.20-8.45am and 3.15-3.50pm, Monday to Thursday and 2.35-3.10pm at the end of the school day on Friday. If you are accessing the drive at other times we would ask that you are mindful of our speed restrictions and other vehicles. Please arrange to drop and collect your son/daughter away from the academy and ideally away from Grange Street.

Free School Meal Vouchers

If your child is eligible for free school meals and is sent home to self-isolate we can offer two options to parents/carers:

- **10 days self-isolation** – If your child either tests positive, or is sent home as a close contact of someone who has tested positive, and has to self-isolate for 10 days we can provide a 2-week food box (collection only).
- If after taking a home test your child tests positive and you are waiting for the results of a PCR test, we can offer a daily Grab and Go bag that can be ordered before 10.30am and collected after 12 noon. If the PCR test is also positive, we can then offer the 2-week food box for the 10-day self-isolation period.

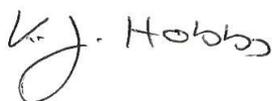
Please see the Academy website for more details [Free School Meals](#)

Dates for the diary

- Monday 22nd March to Thursday 1st April 2021 - Year 11 Mock Exams
- Friday 26th March – deadline for submission of option forms for Year 9
- Monday 29th March – Sixth Form Virtual Parents Evening, 4.30-6pm
- Thursday 1st April – last day of term; usual finish time
- Friday 2nd – Friday 16th April – Easter holiday
- Monday 19th April – all pupils return

We continue to offer help and support to all of our pupils, families, staff and community. If you do need to get in touch with us please email info@davidnieper.academy and someone will be in touch.

Yours faithfully



Dr K Hobbs
Headteacher