

Ref: KHO/094/20-21

7 May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I do hope that you all had an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend despite the very poor weather on Monday. Thank you for your support with our Mobile phone policy, there has been a noticeable reduction in any issues related to mobiles this week.

We will be reminding pupils in assembly time next week about our academy expectations as well as the continual need to follow all the health and safety requirements around Covid-19, both within and outside of the academy. We have been delighted to see the declining number of Covid-19 cases locally and even more delighted to not have any pupils or staff currently requiring to isolate. However, we are very keen that this continues to remain the case and we do rely on everyone continuing to work to keep themselves and others as safe as possible. We are expecting an updated Government announcement on the Covid-19 requirements in school and we will reflect on these and ensure that as any of our practices and procedures change that we provide full details and timelines to all of you and all pupils.

Virtual Careers Fair – w/c. 10 May

Our Virtual Careers Fair begins on Monday 10 May and will continue until Friday 14 May. This event is designed for all pupils – and their parents/carers – to (virtually) visit different employers, colleges and universities, with a view to deciding what their next steps will be after taking their GCSEs. We know that this can be a challenging time for pupils and their families, which is why we aim to provide as much information as possible to make these important decisions easier. At this year's Careers Fair we have grouped the videos into three main categories: colleges, employers and universities, which should make it easier to navigate and find which category is of most interest. For example, if a pupil is interested in leaving school after their GCSEs and wants to be involved in a workplace environment, they may choose to look at 'employers' or colleges that offer apprenticeships. If a pupil knows they want to go to university and continue to study for A Levels, they may choose to look at 'universities' as well as 'colleges' if they wish to consider options for A level alongside the offer at David Nieper Academy Sixth Form.

The link to the Careers Fair will be sent to pupils' school email address and can be accessed at any time, including at home, therefore we are inviting parents/carers to also have a look around, to help support with decision making in the future.

We are very grateful to the companies and organisations that have volunteered to be a part of this year's Careers Fair and welcome more volunteers in the future. If your organisation would be willing to participate, please email jsheward@davidnieper.academy for more information.

Summer School

We are continuing to speak to parents about the possible arrangements for Summer school. At this stage, we are just asking for an expression of interest, so that we can determine the level of demand. If you have received the survey or are contacted by phone, please can we ask that you let us know your thoughts and preferences to allow us to plan appropriately.

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, please 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, you 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)

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.

Diary Dates

Monday 21 June to Thursday 1 July – Year 10 Mock Exams

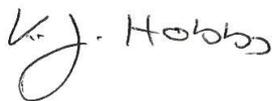
Monday 21 June to Thursday 1 July – Years 7, 8 & 9 assessments - full information and details will be provided to all pupils and parents

Monday 7 June and Friday 2 July – INSET days – school closed to pupils

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.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



Dr K Hobbs
Headteacher