

Ref: KHO/109/20-21

18 June 2021



Grange Street
Alfreton
Derbyshire
DE55 7JA

Dear Parents/Carers

We have had to switch between some very hot warm days in the academy to unfortunately back to wet breaks and lunches today. I am hoping that the good weather returns very soon.

We are moving next week into our Year 10 mock weeks and the Year 7,8 & 9 assessments. All pupils were issued before half-term with a Mock/Assessment booklet that outlines exactly what they will be assessed on and the nature of the assessments for every subject – so we are very hopeful that pupils have been using these to support with their preparations. It is important that pupils do attend for all of their assessments as it will be very disruptive for them to have to complete any assessments at a later time. For Year 10 pupils this will be their first full set of mock exams. The exams will be run in our Sports Hall, overseen by our Exams Officer Mrs Proctor-Smith and invigilated by our team of invigilators following the usual exam board requirements – so will provide a full experience of the exam situation.

The intention of our Assessment weeks and the Mock Exams are to prepare pupils for future external assessments and to allow them to have the opportunity to see what knowledge and understanding they have covered over the year is secure and what may need further recapping and revision in the future. The assessments also allow teachers to plan the next stages of their Schemes of Work as well as to ensure that we have all appropriate support in place to allow the pupils to do their best.

We do want all pupils to prepare and try their best in the assessments and mocks, but this should not lead to increased anxiety. Please do not hesitate to contact your son/daughter's form tutor or PSM in the first instance if you would like to discuss any aspects of the assessments.

Year 11 & Year 13 Exam grading policies and procedures

Our Centre Assessment Policy was confirmed by JCQ with no amendments required. The Centre Assessment policy is available on our website at

<https://davidnieper.academy/students/examinations/>

The Appeals procedure has also now been agreed by JCQ and again a copy is on our website. If you do have any further questions about the grading of qualifications or the process in general this year please do not hesitate to contact our Exams Officer, Mrs Proctor-Smith.

examsofficer@davidnieper.academy

Face Coverings

Thank you for everyone's continued support with the wearing of face coverings in the academy as we have returned after half-term. We are very pleased that everyone is continuing to work together to keep our academy as safe as possible. Our procedures remain in place for the time being and will continue to be reviewed as we get further local and Government guidance. Face coverings are not compulsory in classrooms but are still required in communal spaces such as corridors and when entering, leaving and moving around the building. National restrictions still apply to travel to and from school and pupils are still required to wear face masks on school and public buses.

Testing

With the easing of some national restrictions it is even more important that all pupils and staff continue to test twice a week. 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 continue to inform us over half-term by contacting school immediately or email info@davidnieper.academy to let us know. The email will be monitored daily.
- 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 lateral flow home test your child tests positive and you are waiting for the results of a PCR test, we can offer a daily Grab & 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.

For Year 11 and Year 13 pupils who are entitled to a Free School Meal, we offer a Grab & Go option until Friday 9 July 2021.

Please use the Grab & Go form on the FSM page of our website [Grab & Go](#) and email to finance@davidnieper.academy before 10.30am. Collections of Grab & Go will be available from 12 noon. Any queries please contact the finance department at the academy.

Enrichment Opportunities

Mr Burns has updated the list of enrichment opportunities, which is available on our website [Enrichment Opportunities](#)

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

Friday 2 July – INSET day – school closed to pupils

Friday 9 July – Year 11 Leavers' assembly

Tuesday 20 July – Tutor Review Afternoon, 2-6.30pm (early buses at 1.45pm)

Thursday 22 July – Last day of term (early buses at 1.45pm)

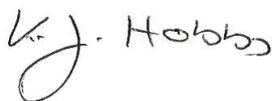
Thursday 22 July – Year 11 Leavers' Prom at Morley Hayes (new date)

Monday 6 September – All pupils return after the summer holidays

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

Enjoy the weekend.

Yours faithfully



Dr K Hobbs
Headteacher