

Ref: KHO/143/21-22

7 January 2022



Grange Street
Alfreton
Derbyshire
DE55 7JA

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the New Year

I do hope that you have all had a good Christmas and New Year. I am very pleased that we will all be returning to the academy next week. While there will be a few changes that we need to put in place to continue to work to keep everyone as safe as possible, many of our previous routines and health & safety measures remain the same.

January staggered start to allow for Covid testing

Further to recent Government announcements, each pupil (currently with parental consent) will be tested in school at the start of the new term. As before, our intention is to allow this to take place in the least disruptive manner to allow a smooth start to the new term and we ask that:

- Year 10 & 11 and Sixth Form - arrive for 8.30am on Monday 10 January 2022 – tests will take place and normal lessons will begin
- Year 7, 8 & 9 - arrive for 8.30am on Tuesday 11 January 2022 (they should not attend on 10 January). Testing will take place and normal lessons will continue.

If you have previously provided consent, you do not need to provide this again. However, if consent was not provided and you wish for your son/daughter to be included in the process, please click on this link [Testing Consent Form](#). Can we please ask that all pupils test using a lateral flow test the evening before returning to the academy.

We will return to a **Week B timetable**.

Lateral Flow (LFD) Testing

We will continue as with our usual routine of asking all pupils and staff to test twice a week on a Wednesday and Sunday evening. We will continue to provide all pupils with test kits. Additional kits can be ordered from <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

Positive Lateral Flow test

If a positive result is seen on a LFD then pupils must isolate (the requirement for a confirmatory PCR test is removed from 11th January). The 10-day isolation period can now be reduced to 7 days. To do this, pupils must then take 2 LFD Tests on day 6 and day 7 of their isolation period. These must be taken 24 hours apart and both must be negative. If this is the case, a pupil can return provided they don't have a high temperature. If the test remains positive, the requirement to isolate for 10 days remains.

Please report any positive test to the academy by emailing info@davidnieper.academy

It is important that you notify us so that we can mark the register correctly for the isolation period and monitor positive case numbers within the academy community. Work will be available for pupils to complete if they are well enough.

Pupils must not attend the academy if they have any of the Covid-19 symptoms, however mild.

Face Coverings

Further to the recent changes in Government guidance, **all** pupils, staff and visitors must continue to wear face coverings when in communal areas within the academy and when entering and leaving the building. Face coverings must also be worn on public transport and in shops.

From Monday 10th January, for at least the next three weeks, pupils are now required to wear face coverings during lessons. Please ensure that all pupils wear a plain face covering and carry at least one spare, as we do only hold limited emergency supplies. We will continue to remind pupils that it is essential that face coverings do always cover the nose and mouth when inside the building.

Time outside

We appreciate that it is not ideal to be wearing a mask for the whole day and we will be asking all pupils to remain outside at the start of the day, breaks and lunches, other than when eating their lunch, so that they are able to remove their masks and have some fresh air.

Warm clothes

As we will once again be spending any non-lesson time outside, all pupils are recommended to bring a coat, gloves and scarf – there will be some cooler days ahead.

We will continue to ventilate the building and for all classrooms the inside temperature will continue to be lower than usual. Therefore, pupils should wear their academy jumper along with their blazer. We also recommend that pupils may wish to wear an additional layer of clothing such as a plain T-shirt under their school shirt.

We are in the very fortunate position of having an air circulation system fitted as part of the academy building. We will continue to ensure that this is in use at all times.

Equipment

It remains very important that pupils always have and use their own equipment. Please ensure that pupils do bring their academy calculator and the stationery equipment, such as mini white board, pen and rubber, every day.

Vaccinations

Young people aged 12 to 15 in England are now being offered a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at a minimum of 12 weeks from the first dose, following advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI).

There will be a return visit of the school immunisation team to the academy, however we have not yet been advised of the date of their next visit. We will let you know as soon as we are given a date. If you prefer not to wait, Parents/Carers can book vaccinations for their child, if aged 12 or over, through the [NHS booking system](#)

16-17-year-old students have been eligible for a second vaccine dose for some time, and they are now also eligible for booster doses, as long as there is a 12-week gap between jabs.

Expectations

Please can I remind everyone that full uniform is required on our return next week. Pupils should be reminded that all facial piercings and false nails will need to be removed ready for the start of term.

All pupils are encouraged to maintain the high standards of hygiene that we adopted by washing their hands and using the hand sanitizer available around the academy at very regular intervals. We will continue our enhanced cleaning regime.

Tutors will be working with pupils on the first day back to explain and go through all of our expectations such as the requirement to wear a mask, to be outside at breaks and lunches, our one-way system, the need to frequently use the hand sanitiser and to move quickly and quietly in corridors.

I am confident that if we all continue to work together to support each other that we can keep the academy as safe as possible for us all.

Upcoming Trips and Events

Wednesday 12 January

Thursday 13 January

Sixth Form Parents Evening (face to face)

Nasal Flu vaccinations – online consent required

Academic Year 2021/2022

Monday 10 January

Tuesday 11 January

Monday 21 to Friday 25 February

Monday 28 February

Year 10, 11 & Sixth Form pupils return

Year 7, 8 & 9 pupils return

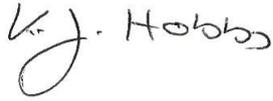
Half-term holiday

INSET Day – academy closed

If we can help or support in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Please email [info@davidnieper.academy](mailto:info@ davidnieper.academy) and a member of staff will be in touch.

We look forward to welcoming pupils back to the academy next week.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Hobbs', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr K Hobbs
Headteacher