



26th February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Student Return to School – Year 9

We would like to congratulate students at The Grange Academy for their resilience, hard work, and commitment towards their learning following the latest period of lockdown. The engagement and participation with the remote Live teaching has impressed everyone at the school and we are proud of the progress made by all students in this difficult and challenging time.

Nevertheless, face-to-face teaching and learning will always be at the core of everything we do, so we are very much looking forward to welcoming back our students during the week beginning Monday 8th March 2021. We are now taking steps to prepare the academy and it is vitally important that all parents read this letter carefully, enabling them to fully support their child in their return to school.

1/ Student staggered return to the Academy

On **Friday 5th March** we are coordinating a staff **Inset Day** to prepare for the return of students the following week. On this day students will be set academic learning tasks on Google Classroom for the lessons on their timetable. There will be no remote LIVE lessons on this day.

From Monday 8th March students will return to school on the following dates:

Monday 8th March	Year 11 & 13
Tuesday 9th March	Year 7 & 12
Wednesday 10th March	Year 10
Thursday 11th March	Year 9
Friday 12th March	Year 8

Remote Learning (LIVE lessons) and Keyworker School will continue for the following year groups on the dates below:

Monday 8th March	Year 7,8,9,10,12
Tuesday 9th March	Year 8,9,10
Wednesday 10th March	Year 8,9
Thursday 11th March	Year 8

2/ Asymptomatic Testing

We strongly recommend that all academy students complete a Lateral Flow Test prior to their return to the Academy. Thank you to the high percentage of parents that have already given consent for their child to have this. If you have not yet returned this form to give consent please complete this asap at the following link:

[Student Lateral Flow Test - Consent Form](#)

Students who consent will be tested three times before the Easter holiday and will need to have a negative result each time before they return to lessons.

All Year 9 students must arrive at school through the **Main Entrance** at the following times in full school uniform to complete their first Lateral Flow Test. Students without consent for the test should still arrive at this time.

Thursday 11th February

Year 9

Time of Arrival to School	Tutor Group	Form Tutor
9.00am	9A	Ms Gatti
9.30am	9B	Ms Kinsella
10.00am	9C	Mr Godfrey
10.30am	9D	Ms Poulton
11.30pm	9E	Ms Stanbury
12.00pm	9F	Ms Upton
12.30pm	9G	Ms Knoetze
1.00pm	9H	Mr Putman

3/ COVID 19 Safety and Control Measures

When we return there will be strict COVID-19 restrictions and expectations in place regarding how the Academy can operate. Please read the points below carefully with your child before they return to school:

- Apart from the first day back when students will enter via the Main Reception, Year Groups will continue to arrive and leave school at different times and entrances to maximise social distancing during their journeys to and from school:

Year Group	Students should arrive at school at	Students will be dismissed at	Entrance & Exit
Year 7	8.25am	2.50pm	Main Entrance
Year 8	8.25am	2.50pm	Arena Entrance
Year 9	8.25am	2.50pm	Maths Entrance
Year 10	8.50am	3.15pm	Entrance behind the LRC
Year 11	8.50am	3.15pm	Cloister Hall Entrance
Sixth Form	8.50am	3.15pm	Grand Hall Entrance

- Year Groups will be in “bubbles” and will not mix with other year groups
- Students should still attend school in their PE Kit on days when they have PE on their timetable

- Students will be required to clean their hands when they arrive and regularly throughout the day.
- Year groups will have their own toilets and areas for break and lunch
- Students will be required to **wear a mask at all times whilst in the school building** - this includes in lessons. The only exceptions to this are whilst eating in the restaurant or whilst outside at break and lunchtime.

Students who are not wearing a mask in the school building will spend a period of time in Internal Exclusion.

Any student that is exempt from wearing a mask must have written medical evidence to support this.

- Students must not attend the academy if they have any symptoms of COVID-19: a high temperature, a new continuous cough; and/or a loss or change to their sense of taste and smell
- We encourage students not to travel to the academy by public transport. If there is no alternative they must wear a face covering.

4/ School Uniform & Equipment

Please ensure that your child returns to the academy in the correct uniform, including school shoes and their school bag. It is very important that your child starts back on a positive note.

Parents should note that any student returning in March without the correct uniform will be sent home so that the issue can be rectified. No allowances will be made for any unacceptable items of uniform (this includes PE Kit).

The Uniform and Equipment procedures are comprehensive documents and are available on the school website.

Final Thoughts

We know that this has been a hugely challenging time for everyone and we are very conscious of the long-term impact on student mental health and well-being. We are confident, however, that we will be able to put a strong 'recovery' programme in place for all students, which will include opportunities for sport and activities after school, so please watch this space. The very act of returning to attending full-time schooling is a hugely significant first step in that recovery.

Yours sincerely

Dr Philip Hills
Principal

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