



26 March 2021

Dear Parent or Carer

It is a pleasure to write to you at the conclusion of what has been a very unusual term for all of us.

Lateral flow-testing for students has continued in school but will now be conducted at home via the self-testing home kit. Vice Principal, Mr Nagle has sent an email with full instructions but he will shortly be resending this to everyone, so please look out for that. It is important also, that any positive Covid results during the Easter holidays are reported to the school to allow for contact tracing. Mr Nagle will write to you separately with the procedure.

It will continue to be compulsory for all students and staff to wear face masks when we return after Easter, so please do take the opportunity to top up your supplies of masks now and invest in reusable ones if possible. We have a very limited supply of disposable masks, but will not provide these indefinitely to those students who continue to forget to bring a mask to school.

In last week's letter I mentioned a number of Future Academies essay competitions which will be a great way to keep occupied during the holidays. To this total may be added a Latin 'Aesop's Fables' competition, details of which have been posted to all Year 7 Parents. Pupils have been studying these in their Latin classes and Mr Sayer and I are really looking forward to reading these entries after Easter.

[The Grange Academy - The Young Aesopi Contest \(futureacademies.org\)](https://futureacademies.org)

Year 13 students will have received advice from their individual teachers about the topics on which to focus in each subject.

Year 11 pupils will be receiving an overall booklet advising on which specific topics to revise for each subject.

I am sure that all students in Year 13 and 11 will want to make the most of the two week Easter break to prepare for the assessments in May.

Pleasingly, overall average attendance at The Grange now stands at 94.6%, this is a significant improvement on last year. Let's all keep pushing to make sure that we get it over 95%.

Mr Nagle has a few reminders for parents and students on the importance of following the uniform and equipment policy:

- Jewellery is not permitted other than a discreet, single stud in each ear. Necklaces, piercings, rings etc are not allowed and will be confiscated.
- School shoes, should be plain, black, flat, not above the ankle and trainers (including black ones) are not allowed. Students not abiding by this rule will be asked to put on a pair of shoes from our central supply (regularly disinfected) before being allowed to enter the building.
- One or two pupils seem to have lost their official school bag. Replacements are available at Pullen's physical store or Uniform4Kids (online). Incorrect 'unofficial' bags will be confiscated next term.

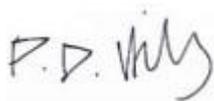
Vice Principal, Mr Sudbery has informed me that out of 226 secondary schools nationally using GCSEPod, The Grange is 19th in terms of overall usage, with History, Maths and Biology, in particular all getting a lot of attention. Well done to students who are making the most of this excellent resource.

Online learning seemed to go very well, with high scores in student satisfaction surveys and I would like to thank parents, students and particularly teaching staff for their contribution in making it work so smoothly: we have come a very long way in a short space of time.

I am delighted that we will be hosting 65 students on a Future Academies Easter Sports Camp over the break – many thanks to Ms Hayward, our Careers and Enrichment Coordinator and to our site and lettings teams for co-ordinating this. If you missed out on this occasion, don't worry – we plan to have more events like this over the summer break so please watch this space for more news!

Finally, I would like to wish all of you a happy, healthy and safe Easter break with your families.

With very best wishes



Dr Philip Hills
Principal
The Grange Academy

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