

Principal: Mark Woodhouse

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26th August 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Start of Term Arrangements

I hope and trust that you and your families have had a restful and enjoyable summer to date. As mentioned in our end of term letter I would be writing to you towards the end of the summer holidays to highlight arrangements for the start of the autumn term.

Start of Term COVID Testing: In my previous communication I highlighted that schools and academies would be expected to test students on their return from the summer holiday. We will be following the guidance from the DfE and for parents who have consented will be testing the students twice on their return from the holiday. This will be in a similar fashion to what we did back in March when students returned after the last lockdown. In order to facilitate this the Government have allowed schools to stagger the start of the autumn term. This will mean that we will expect the following students to return on the following days:

Monday 6th September: Year 7 and Year 11 Students
Tuesday 7th September: Year 8 and Year 10 Students (+Year 7 and Year 11 Students)
Wednesday 8th September: Year 9 Students (+ Year 7, 8, 10 and 11 Students)

This staggered return will allow us to test the students on their return and ensure that we can support the start of term appropriately. The academy day will run as normal on each of these days so students will need to be in the academy for 8.45am.

In line with the guidance we will test all students whose parents previously consented to us testing them and the previous consent forms can be carried over. For our parents of Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 students, should you no longer wish for your children to be tested please can you email the academy at office@tnha.org.uk informing us of this change. If you previously had not given consent but now wish for your child(ren) to be tested then please fill in the online form at the link below. For our incoming Year 7 students we ask parents who consent for their children to be tested to fill in the online consent form at the link below:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=AK_IDCh5ckCpJcQ08LWju_0cwwQgo8BCng3tJQjZwKtUOTFCME5aV0dQUEZZMk1aMjcwVlDaNTVOSC4u

Or scan the following code:



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Determined to be...

'the best that we can be'



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Please can parents/carers of Year 7 students complete the online form by Thursday 2nd September as we have to upload our database to the NHS and this will ensure that we can have everything in place for when the students return on the Monday.

Testing is not mandatory or compulsory but in order to keep everyone as safe as we can on return from the summer break we are advising students to be tested. We know from our previous experience how valuable this was and enabled us to keep both staff and students as safe as possible. Students who are tested will then take a second test 3 to 5 days after their first, again in line with the guidance that the Government have issued. Beyond this our understanding is that we will still be issuing students with home testing kits to maintain testing twice a week into the autumn term.

Day to Day in the Academy: Again, in line with Government guidelines, we will no longer be containing students within the year group bubbles that we were working in at the end of the last academic year. We will be maintaining certain protocols such as our one-way system that students will follow as they move around the academy and we will be continuing to offer an enhanced level of cleaning and hand sanitisation around the academy. We will also initially be creating designated areas for year groups during social times so we can better support students as well as ease students back into the normal academy routines. These changes will take the academy back to as near normal in terms of operation allowing students, in time, to access all the opportunities we can provide.

Students will no longer need to wear facing coverings in the academy and classrooms although any students who want to are welcome to. We will keep this policy under review alongside the national guidance. **However, for students who travel on buses Norfolk County Council are asking that students wear face coverings and we are asking the same for students who use the academy mini-buses. Again, if and when the County Council update their guidance we will let you know.**

Uniform and PE: Prior to the summer students were asked to arrive in the academy in their PE kit on the days that they have PE. The latest guidance suggests that students are able to use and access changing facilities in the academy as normal, so students will be expected to bring their kit and change into PE kit for PE lessons. If for any reason this expectation changes we will let you know.

Contact Tracing and Isolation: Should a student or member of staff test positive, contact tracing will now be taken on by NHS Test and Trace. Children under the aged of 18 will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COBVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and will be advised to take a PCR test. Whilst it is not compulsory we would encourage all individuals in this situation to take a PCR test and following the Government guidance and advice on these matters.

I hope that this letter clarifies the start of term arrangements and a return to more normal ways of working. I am aware that there are still a number of unknowns and we may be asked to make changes through the autumn term but as always, we will keep you updated as and when the guidance changes. We were delighted with the way students ended the summer term and I know the staff in the academy are looking forward with optimism for a positive start to the new academic year.

I hope you can enjoy the last couple of weeks of the summer holiday and we look forward to seeing the students return from Monday 6th September.

Kind regards.



Mr Woodhouse
Principal