

## Week Beginning 21st September 2020

This week we have continued to invite Year 6 students and their parents/carers to attend 'live tours' around the Academy. Due to COVID restrictions these tours have to be less than 6 people and outside of normal Academy hours. The feedback has been very positive and it is a real pleasure to show prospective parents/carers and students around the Academy. If you know of any Year 6 students and their parents/carers who would like this opportunity, please do encourage them to contact Reception on 0117 440 8900.

We are currently in the process of launching assessments for some Year Groups. Years 7 and 8 will be taking Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) assessments for a 3-week period starting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October. To prepare for these assessments, students should be using their knowledge organisers for block 1. They have been trained in 'Cornell Note Taking' to assist their preparation but parents/carers can play a role by 'quizzing' their children on the content of these knowledge organisers. Full details and a timetable will be released early next week.

Our Year 11 students will be undertaking their next round of Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) during the first 2 weeks back after October half term. Normally all exams would take place in central venues. Due to COVID restrictions only some exams will take place in central venues whilst others are carried out in lesson time. The purpose of these PPEs is to prepare students for sitting their final exams next summer, identify what they know and where their areas for development are. If for any reason next summer's exams should be cancelled (as they were last academic year) then these PPEs will be key in deciding centre assessed grades so it is essential that students prepare properly for them in the coming weeks. It is also important they do not get stressed or too anxious about these exams. If you feel your child needs some support please do contact their tutor or Head of House.

To support them further we will be holding a virtual 'Steps to Success' event this coming week. Further details will be sent home but virtual presentations will be made available and we would urge you to watch these with your child and discuss the content, especially related to next steps and Post-16 choices.

We still have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 amongst staff or students. As you will know, there is increased infection rates in the community so it is now more important than ever to follow our COVID restrictions guidance within and beyond the Academy:

- If your child or anyone in the household has symptoms (cough, temperature, loss of taste/smell) please **DO NOT** send your child into the Academy. Call 111 and follow the advice given. Please do inform the Academy on the student absence line;
- Wash/sanitise hands regularly we ensure this happens on arrival and in every lesson;
- Ensure social distancing is maintained whenever possible do not mix with other Year Groups within or beyond the Academy wherever possible;
- Arrive and leave the Academy at your assigned time try not to arrive to early and do not wait around at the end of the Academy day.

Many thanks for all your support with this. The vast amount of young people are following the guidance very well and this contributes to the safety of everyone.

Finally, we would normally be inviting Year 7 parents in to the Academy to meet with their child's tutor in the next couple of weeks. These meetings are to see how your child has settled in to life in the Academy. We are obviously having to review how this feedback will be provided and will communicate this to Year 7 parents/carers as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support - Mr Kneller | Principal



## **CALENDAR – Week Beginning 28th September:**

DATE	EVENT
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Academy Tour for Year 7 Prospective Students (4pm-6pm)
	Please call Reception to book a slot.
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Academy Tour for Year 7 Prospective Students (4pm-6pm)
	Please call Reception to book a slot.
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Academy Tour for Year 7 Prospective Students (4pm-6pm)
	Please call Reception to book a slot.
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Academy Tour for Year 7 Prospective Students (4pm-6pm)
	Please call Reception to book a slot.
	Year 11 Steps to Success – Virtual Evening (Details to follow)
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	

## **CALENDAR - Week Beginning 5th October:**

DATE	EVENT
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	KS3 MCQs
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	KS3 MCQs
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	KS3 MCQs
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	KS3 MCQs Y7 Tutor Feedback (Details to follow on how this will take place)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	KS3 MCQs