



## **GARSTANG COMMUNITY ACADEMY**

Bowgreave ☒ Garstang ☒ Lancashire ☒ PR3 1YE ☒ Tel: 01995 603226 ☒ Email:  
info@garstangcommunityacademy.com

26th January, 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Every week brings new challenges along with new advice and guidance so I thought I would communicate a flavour of what's going on in school currently, just to keep you up to date:

### Covid:

**Masks:** As you know, the national guidance changes from tomorrow and, as our current Covid-related absence is low (about 2%), I feel that it would be inappropriate for me to not follow this guidance. Therefore, from tomorrow, masks will no longer need to be worn in classrooms or in corridors. However, if our numbers do increase, we may need to temporarily reverse this decision. Masks are still required to be worn on dedicated school transport to and from school. Any children or adults who wish to continue to wear their masks, should feel very comfortable in doing so.

**Other precautions:** Please continue to encourage children to take a lateral flow test twice a week and to follow the current advice if they do test positive. We will still be ventilating classrooms, so please encourage children to wear appropriate layers of school uniform.

**Vaccinations:** We are hoping that booster vaccinations will take place before Easter but are still waiting for confirmed dates.

### Successes:

Following our Alpaca Experience reward at the end of the Autumn Term, we are continuing to reward our hardworking and successful students. This week, 233 certificates have been presented to students who demonstrated an outstanding 'attitude to learning' or 'progress' across the curriculum during the previous term. We are currently planning our next end of term reward for just before Easter – please encourage your child to want to try to be involved by working super hard over this term.

As I'm sure you can imagine we continue to endure a constant churn of staff absence, supply staff, Covid regulations and associated mitigation, student absence, the threat of contracting Covid etc etc. Nevertheless, as always, we endeavour to provide a fantastic educational experience for our children even during this challenging time and this can be extremely

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energy sapping for our incredibly hard-working staff (both teaching and non-teaching). Therefore, as the half term comes to an end over the next couple of weeks, please be understanding that staff are almost certainly on their knees and absolutely doing the very best they can – as they always do.

As ever, I thank you for your ongoing support through difficult times while, for once, being optimistic that a return to normality is on the horizon.

Very best wishes,

Alasdair Ashcroft  
Headteacher

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