



GARSTANG COMMUNITY ACADEMY

Bowgreave [📍](#) Garstang [📍](#) Lancashire [📍](#) PR3 1YE [📞](#) Tel: 01995 603226 [✉](#) Email: info@garstangcommunityacademy.com

28th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We have had an excellent start to the year: Teaching and Learning is excellent; children's behaviour has been fantastic; and the new operational arrangements around school are, on the whole, working really well. The only disappointment is, that we have only been able to open our main canteen, which has created longer queuing times than any of us would have liked. This has been caused by unforeseen staffing pressures, which are now very close to being resolved. Service in both canteens will resume as soon as possible.

I want to make you aware of a couple of key issues facing us which are Covid related:

- While we are still fortunate enough to only have a small number of positive cases (still <10 students and <5 staff), many schools are facing quite extreme numbers of both staff and student positive cases, and have been advised to return to many of the pre-summer protocols, including mask wearing in various situations. I am monitoring this situation, but wanted you to be aware that there will more than likely come a point when we have to consider similar measures.
- The further knock on from other schools' situations is that they are requiring significant numbers of supply staff. We were informed today that the supply agencies had run out of staff completely even though we only required one additional teacher. Again, we will monitor this situation, and always aim to put the highest quality of teachers we can in front of classes.

Just in case we do reach a situation whereby we are forced into short term year/class closures, we have been working really hard to take students through new log-ins for Google Drive, their GCA email and School Synergy, to make sure that they are fully prepared should this situation manifest itself. All students should be fully logged on by the end of this week, and should be checking their Synergy accounts regularly to check current homework, and ensure their 'lockdown readiness'. I would encourage you to sit with your child and ask them to show you that they can log on, encourage them to check their homework regularly on Synergy, and let us know if you have specific technology issues which could negatively impact on your child's ability to access work from home should the need arise.

2/



FCAT
The best we can be

GARSTANG COMMUNITY ACADEMY

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

I'm sure you are wondering about Covid vaccines. I believe that the intention is for consent forms to be sent to us by the NHS over the next few days and that the vaccination process will be completed by 11th October. As soon as we have any information, we will send the consent forms to you and provide the infrastructure in school to allow the NHS team to process these and vaccinate children for whom consent has been given.

Very best wishes,

Alasdair Ashcroft
Headteacher

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

Company Limited by Guarantee Number 08364709

Registered in England & Wales – Registered Office: Armfield Academy, 488 Lytham Road, Blackpool, FY4 1TL