



Wellfield Academy

Executive Headteacher Mrs L Gwinnett
Head of School Mr J Lewis

Friday 14th January 2022

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Parental Updates

Despite the slight disruption caused by COVID testing last week, it has been a fabulous start to the Spring term. We were delighted with the number of students who attended to complete their test which allowed us to limit the spread of the virus amongst the school community upon the return to school. Thank you to all parents for your understanding and support, once again.

The students have settled into the new term brilliantly so far and we are really pleased with the engagement of students across all year groups within lessons overall. Year 11 have also started this term by undertaking their Runshaw College interviews and the feedback, unsurprisingly, was excellent.

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Last night was our first opportunity this year to talk to parents of our Year 9 students to give an update on engagement and progress within learning. Our teaching staff genuinely enjoy talking to parents so it was good to see so many parents join us online throughout the evening. Thank you for your support.

Staffing Updates

This week will see us saying a big thank you and goodbye to both Mrs Hogarth and Mrs Baybutt. Mrs Hogarth has played an important role in the PDC team since starting with us as an Admin Assistant before moving into a Pastoral & Behaviour Manager role. Mrs Baybutt, our Operational Lead for Science, has now sadly made the decision to move out of education. She has played an influential role in implementing significant improvements within the science department over recent years and her positive approach and personality will be missed by all staff and students. We wish both Mrs Hogarth and Mrs Baybutt all the best for the future.

COVID Updates

You may be aware that further changes are now being made to the self-isolation period which, from Monday, means people will be able to leave isolation after negative lateral flow tests on days five and six. Hopefully, this will help to limit the impact upon the education of students who do test positive as well as potentially reducing the impact upon staff absence overall. Please continue to ensure your son/daughter undertakes regular testing at home twice each week and let us know if more tests are required.

We sent out information to all parents yesterday regarding the second vaccinations that will take place in school on Wednesday 19th January so please do read through the details and let us know if you have any questions.

Face Coverings

The overwhelming majority of students continue to wear the mask as expected within lessons and around the school. Please continue to talk to your son/daughter about the importance of wearing their mask correctly and, where possible, ensure they arrive with their own on a daily basis.



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Remote Learning

A reminder that our overriding priority is to keep our school open for all children. This week we have been fortunate that staff absence rates have been relatively low which has allowed us to continue as we hoped. As we know, this could change quickly. Following our training days last week, staff are prepared for a range of potential options, including the possibility of reverting to remote learning as a last resort. Please be aware that this decision may happen at short notice if we do have staff absences and struggle to cover through supply agencies, for example. To help avoid this, we have also prepared for the possibility of teaching in larger groups in some areas which will mean students remain in school and therefore continue to receive a good quality of education.

Key Dates

- **Tuesday 25th January:** Year 11 Brown Envelope Session (Practice exam results)
- **Wednesday 26th January:** PSHCE Day
- **Thursday 27th January:** Year 10 Parents' Evening
- **Thursday 10th February:** Year 9 Options Evening

Wishing you all a lovely weekend. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or queries enquiries@wellfieldacademy.org.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Lewis

Head of School