



Manchester Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Newsletter

Friday 11th September 2020

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an amazing first week back at Manchester Academy. There has been a lot to take in for students but by midweek, the new routines and systems were running like clockwork. I have never been as impressed with a school as I have been this week with our students and staff. Straight back into lessons with maturity and commitment and real respect for the COVID safe rules we have put in place. After a long time away from school for many students, this excellent return is yet another sign of the high expectations of Manchester Academy.

I would like to pay tribute to our amazing Y7, who have entered a strange new building, with a one-way system and a set of new staff (in masks!) with such confidence and resilience. Starting at high school can be daunting in normal times, this Y7 have made a very positive impression by dealing so well with all the challenges of the current situation. Making Manchester Magic from day one – I am excited to see the potential of this excellent year group.

Stormzy – Superhero

On Wednesday, as you may have seen on the news, the global megastar, Stormzy, delivered an exclusive personal statement to the students of Manchester Academy. He spoke passionately about students working hard and not being limited by any barriers in their way. We were all then given a world premiere exclusive of his new music video. One of the most famous British entertainers in the world chose our school for this launch – this is the level of ambition we want for all our students.

Face Coverings

Students have to wear face coverings around the building and when socialising indoors. At the start of the week, quite large numbers of students were not prepared for this rule. By the end of the week, 99% of students brought a face covering into school and we supported those students who didn't have one. I want to thank all our families for your support with this – it has made a huge difference and we will need to continue wearing face coverings for the foreseeable future. We made the decision that if students wanted to, face coverings could also be worn in lessons and again, this seems to have helped student and staff confidence.

Academy Uniform

The consistency of uniform has also been excellent – again parents support with this is much appreciated. All students were given the new Manchester Academy tie at the start of term and

looked incredibly smart, wearing them with pride. As I wrote last term, the old royal blue sweatshirt is no longer allowed in the Academy and our uniform supplier no longer stocks this item. Some Y11 students bought the sweatshirt from an unauthorised stockist and we are taking action against this counterfeit product. Please do not buy this sweatshirt, as it will not be allowed in school. The consistency of school shoes was excellent – thank you. Hoodies/tracksuit tops/sweatshirts are not allowed in the Academy – only a waterproof coat. From next week, we will confiscate any hoodies/tracksuit tops/sweatshirts worn into the Academy.

Mobile Phones

Last year we successfully introduced a ban on mobile phone use during the Academy day. This worked well and hugely reduced the number of issues we had to deal with from social media. Our rule is simple – students can bring a mobile phone into school but during the school day it should be switched off and not be seen. Students bring mobile phones in at their own risk. Headphones and ear pods therefore should not be seen in the Academy. Students who get phones/headphones out will have them confiscated until the end of the day.

Y11 Period 6

Year 11 Period 6 begins next week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. This week we have run sessions for the year group on college applications. Year 11s will receive their Period 6 timetable in school.

A huge thank you to all our students, parents, carers and staff for demonstrating again, what a supportive community Manchester Academy serves. To see our students learning, working hard, asking questions and enjoying the buzz of making progress has been inspiring this week. Students will be tired this weekend after a full week, so bed early and rest this weekend.

Important Information about Parental Communication

We are sending school communication via our new school app Weduc, can you please ensure you download the App so you can be kept up to date with all important information. We will send your enrolment codes via email or SMS. Please can you follow the instructions to download Weduc. There is more information about it on our website:

<https://www.manchester-academy.org/parents/weduc-parent-app>

Social Media

We have Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts. It would be brilliant if you can like and follow them, and feel free to pass on to your work and community contacts. You can find us on Twitter **@mcracademy**, Facebook **@MCRAcademyHighSchool** and on Instagram **@mcracademyschool**.

Best wishes,



Mr J Eldon, Principal



COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence: A quick guide for parents / carers

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 <p>...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	<p>...when child's test comes back negative and symptom free for 48 hours</p>
 <p>...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) • Inform school immediately about test results • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i> 	<p>...when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours</p> <p>They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Household member with symptoms should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	<p>...when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i> 	<p>...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days</p>

* Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste. See more at: ¹

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 <p>...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days • Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too 	<p>...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we / my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not take unauthorised leave in term time • Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel • Provide information to school as per attendance policy <p>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days 	<p>...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team • Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	<p>...when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p>
 <p>....I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only people with symptoms* need to get a test • People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive 	<p>...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met</p>

For further information:

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gov.uk/backtoschool