



**Manchester Academy**

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

**Newsletter**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

## **Principal's Message**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although this is the Autumn Term, we have had a wonderful week's weather and this has meant the students have been able to go outside and enjoy the sunshine. I want to thank all of our students for continuing to support the measures we have in place to protect our community from Coronavirus. The one-way system can mean slightly longer journeys to lessons but students have dealt well with this. 90% of students bring a face covering in every day and this week this percentage has risen. We will give students a disposable face covering but most like to have their own mask to wear. Please can we make sure that all students have a mask so that we comply with the rules in place in Manchester.

### **COVID-19**

After students have been in school for a few weeks, it is usual that colds and other illnesses appear. This year, because of the Coronavirus pandemic, we are all more nervous when we feel poorly. If you or your child has a high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss or a change to your sense of smell or taste, you should self-isolate and get a Coronavirus test. Everyone in the household should self-isolate. If anyone tests positive then the children must not attend school and the whole household must self-isolate for 14 days from the day when symptoms started. The family must self-isolate for 14 days after a positive test, even if someone tests negative for the virus.

A reminder that from Monday 14 September, when meeting friends and family you do not live with (or have formed a support bubble with), you must not meet in a group of more than 6, indoors or outdoors.

### **Student Leadership**

Over the next few weeks, the Directors of Culture and Character will be selecting students for student leadership opportunities. We want students to contribute to school improvement across a wide range of Academy priorities – from Diversity and Inclusion, to Environmental issues, student well-being and more. Y11 will also be able to apply for Head Girl and Head Boy, as well as prefect positions. I love meeting with our students – they are always honest and give me lots of feedback! Many of the changes we have made across the Academy are because of student voice and their contributions have helped shape our vision of 'Make Manchester Magic'. As we always want to improve, we will be putting in place more forums to hear from our student leaders.

### **Y11 Period 6**

Y11 Period 6 began this week with almost 100% attendance – a wonderful sign of the way students have settled into the Academy. English is on Tuesday, Maths on Thursday and Science on Friday. Once a half-term the options subjects will replace core subjects and run period 6. We are currently

discussing with Y11 college course choices and preparing their personal statements. Again, I have been impressed with their maturity and commitment. A very positive sign for the year ahead.

### **Academy Uniform**

Thank you to all our families for supporting our push to make sure our students look impressive every day. We gave every student the new Academy tie in September and we have had some wonderful feedback on how smart they look. A handful of students have lost their ties and need to bring £5.50 to Student Services to buy a replacement. We have a small number of students, mainly in Y11, still wearing trainers and we are working with families to sort this out. I have been informed that Elite School Uniforms, 166 Manchester Rd, Manchester M16 0DZ, are selling the old Manchester Academy royal blue sweatshirt, which is no longer school uniform. The shop does not have permission to sell our uniform and I apologise to parents who bought the sweatshirt when it is no longer permitted.

Students are now beginning to access more practical PE so please ask your son/daughter to check when their PE lessons are on so they bring the correct kit.

### **Virtual Open Evening**

We are holding a Virtual Open Evening this year, which will go live on our website from October 1<sup>st</sup>. We are offering a small number of personal tours for Year 6 families to visit school – there is limited availability for personal tours around the Academy with Mr Eldon. Please spread the word to your friends and family in the community. Tours can be booked by clicking here: <https://bit.ly/3hMocSm>

### **Important Information about Parental Communication**

Please top up your child's lunch money via our new school app Weduc, can you ensure you download the App so you can also 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>

Finally, I want to say a personal thank you to all the families who have sent such positive messages about the start of term. It means a lot to all of us when people take the time to feedback. Sometimes I still hear negative comments about Manchester Academy based on how things used to be. The journey we have been on has been amazing and I am so proud to lead this school and be an advocate for our brilliant students. We are not complacent and will not be content until we are recognised as one of the best schools in the country because we want our students to lead the next generation with pride in their school.

These are difficult times, but your loyalty and support are much appreciated.

Keep safe and well,



Mr J Eldon, Principal

