



Manchester Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2020

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Schools are complex at the moment – one-way systems, group bubbles, split breaks/lunches and arrivals – yet Manchester Academy students have taken these challenges in their stride and coped brilliantly with the demands of the new term. I walked all around the Academy during period 5 yesterday and was so proud of the hard work, concentration and enthusiasm evident across all year groups and lessons. There will be undoubted challenges this year because of COVID-19, but if our students continue to meet these with such maturity and resilience they will win through and be successful.

COVID-19

Attached to this bulletin is an important letter from Public Health England which gives parents key information on what to do if you are worried about COVID-19. As the days get colder and damper, we will see the usual winter colds, sore throats and runny noses – these are not the symptoms of COVID and are to be expected as we can all pick up these bugs during the Autumn and Winter months. On our website, you will now find the guidance on COVID-19 in different languages and we hope this helps you access the information you might need:

<https://www.manchester-academy.org/information/covid-19-information>

Uniform

Thank you so much for everyone's support for uniform. We have seen a noticeable improvement this week. After the induction period, we will now be confiscating hoodies/sweatshirts/headphones and mobile phones if they are brought out during the Academy day. The items will be safely bagged up and returned to students at the end of the Academy day – if the student hands them over quickly and sensibly. If the student is defiant or uncooperative then the items will only be returned to parents and carers. So far, the students have been excellent in cooperating with the rules which have been in place for 12 months.

We have contacted the supplier who was selling counterfeit royal blue sweatshirts and they have agreed to stop selling these items. Thanks to the parents who gave us information regarding this

product. We have given all students a brand new tie, if the student loses the tie, they can be bought from student services for £5.00.

Attitude to Learning – ATL

One of the most important aspects of life at MA is students' 'Attitude to Learning' grades. In the next few weeks we will be collecting in the Autumn 1 ATL data. Every half-term we send to all parents a report which lets you know how well your son/daughter is working across their lessons. ATL 1 is the goal in every subject, for every student. Students need an average of 1.4 across their subjects to achieve ATL 1 badges and be entered for prize draws. So many students have made such an amazing start, I expect to see record numbers of prizes being awarded. Once a term you will also receive a full academic report with the results of your son/daughter's 'Big Tests' - we want all parents to feel up to date with all aspects of their child's education.

Virtual Open Evening

We are holding a Virtual Open Evening this year, which will go live on our website from October 1st. 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:

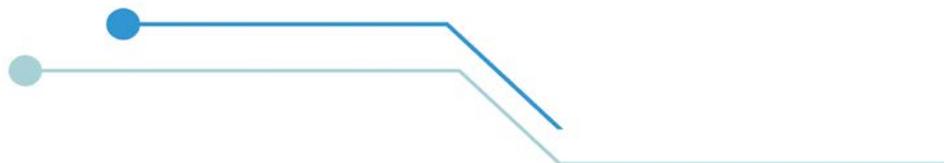
<https://www.manchester-academy.org/parents/weduc-parent-app>

Please keep safe and well and spread the word about Manchester Academy.

Best wishes,



Mr J Eldon, Principal





Test and Trace

23 September 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

This is an important letter to share some information on how we can work together to make sure we can continue to give children and young people the best education in the safest way possible.

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with Covid-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested.

Therefore, I ask that you all follow these principles:

- You should only book a test if your child has any of these three coronavirus symptoms:
 1. **a high temperature:** any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
 2. **a new continuous cough:** coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 3. **a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste:** a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal
- Your child **does not need a test** if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.
- If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly:
www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/
- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

- If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and **only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.**
- If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate **does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.**

No one else in the same class or bubble as the symptomatic person needs to take any action unless advised by the school. Schools have detailed guidance and access to a Department for Education and Public Health England helpline for advice and support.

Contacts of a person who has tested positive must follow the guidance carefully and in full, which means they must stay at home for 14 days. This is because it can take several days following contact with an infected person before an individual develops symptoms or the virus can be detected. Students should only book a test if they get symptoms.

The NHS has produced some guidance to help parents understand when their child can and cannot attend school which you may find useful: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

It is vital for children's learning and future opportunities that they are able to return to school and college. It is therefore vitally important that all we work together and do our bit to make this possible.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Viv Bennett CBE

Chief Nurse and Director Maternity and Early Years | Public Health England

Head of World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Public Health Nursing and Midwifery

Follow me on Twitter: @VivJBennett



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