



Manchester Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Newsletter

Friday 2nd October 2020

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Martin Luther King said about leadership, "The ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand in moments of comfort and convenience, but where they stand in times of challenge and controversy."

Obviously, the return to school this academic year has asked everyone to make sacrifices and I continue to be hugely impressed with the maturity, composure and resilience of our students.

Despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, Manchester Academy students have shown composure and calm and their work rate in lessons is excellent. This winter may present additional challenges, but our staff and students will continue to excel, as they have since the start of the pandemic.

Included with this week's bulletin is the help sheet from Manchester City Council regarding what to do if you are your child has symptoms of COVID. We have had some cases where a sibling has been sent into school, even though their brother/sister is symptomatic. Please read the information sheet as it provides straightforward advice on what to do in a wide range of possible COVID-19 scenarios.

PE and After School Clubs

We are beginning to get more students engaged with practical PE and this is great to see. At the moment, due to COVID-19 practical Science and Food technology are more complex and we continue to review our risk assessment to see whether there are opportunities to develop this work. We are also going to begin after school clubs again, in a limited safe way. Some of these activities will start from 3.15pm to 4.00pm online – students can go home and log-in to get involved. Some clubs will be in school but will operate within year group bubbles.

Student Leadership

Our Directors of Culture and Character (DCCs) will begin our Year group student leadership forums soon – students should look out for how to apply! In Y11 over 50 students applied to be Head Boy/Head Girl or a prefect. We will be interviewing the students next week and this is a wonderful sign of the ambition and maturity of this year group, who have made an excellent start.

Uniform

A huge thanks to all the families who have supported our high standards, we have seen significant improvement in some students. A reminder that students can wear a waterproof coat or jacket to school but not a hoodie/tracksuit top or sweatshirt. We provided new ties to all students; some have already lost them. New ties can be purchased from Student Services for £5.00. Students have been very good at following our mobile phone policy and again, this reflects their maturity.

Virtual Open Evening

We are holding a Virtual Open Evening this year, which is now live on our website:

<https://www.manchester-academy.org/virtual-open-evening>

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. 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 well and positive,



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