

Dear Parents and Carers,

29th March 2021

It is a Year since I joined the Wey Valley Academy as Principal, the same week that the country was plunged into the first Covid19 lockdown. Having to deal with all the challenges that this year has thrown our way, from developing new approaches to remote learning to creating safe environments for students to learn in and most recently operating as a mass testing centre has been interesting to say the least. During the last year my team and I have attempted to respond to parental requests and concerns and we will continue to do so. I now have a full complement of teachers and school leaders and together we are working hard on improving all aspects of the school. We have been focussing on the quality of education, the teaching and learning, providing a broad, balanced and appropriate curriculum and how we rewards students and improve behaviour. It has been great to receive so many emails of support and praise from parents and carers this year, thank you.

A reminder that we break up for the **Easter holiday at 3.10pm on Thursday 1st April and return for the Summer Term on Monday 19th April.**

Please can I remind you that lessons start at 08:30am and all students are expected to be in class by that time, we recommend students arrive at school by 08:25am at the latest. As from Monday 19th April students arriving late for their first lesson will be required to attend a 15 minute after school detention if a valid reason has not been provided.

Year 11 Summer GCSE Assessment Plans

<http://weyvalley-academy.co.uk/pupils/summer-assessment-20-21/>

Please follow the link above to access all the latest information for Year 11 GCSE summer assessments. If you require any additional information please contact Mr Neill, Vice principal neillt@weyvalley-academy.co.uk

Year 11 students will not be required to attend school every day after 28th May (Summer half term). However, in the two weeks from 7th June until 18th June they are still on school roll and must be ready and available to attend school to complete any outstanding assessments if required to do so. The final grades must be submitted to the exam boards on Friday 18th June.

Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

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Lateral Flow Tests

The children will be given test kits to take home today so that they can continue to test during the Easter holiday.

PE days and kit

As you are aware students have been allowed to wear their school PE kit on days when they have PE lessons. I want to continue with this option into the Summer term, however, a significant number of students have started to wear non-school uniform PE kit (branded hooded tops, sweatshirts with images and joggers). As from April 19th on PE days students will be required to wear school approved PE kit. If they are not able to follow this instruction then we will have to re-introduce changing for PE.

To assist with this, and in response to parental requests we have changed the PE kit to include a navy blue hooded top and / or a plain black sweatshirt (this sweatshirt can also double up as a garment to be worn under the blazer on cold days),. Both items are now available from the School Wear shop.

If you wish your child to wear a plain version of either the sweatshirt or hooded top, they can do so but they must not be branded tops and must be Navy blue for the hooded top and black for the sweatshirt.

Students must wear navy blue tracksuit bottoms / joggers or the school PE leggings when in classroom lessons.

Thank you for your continued support in our efforts to keep the students looking smart.

Summer Term Activities

We hope to be able to operate a more extensive range of extra-curricular activities next term and will publish details when we return. We will be running a Year 11 Prom and are planning to hold a Sports Day. At this time, we are not permitted to take students on trips and visits, but hopefully that will change soon.

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Parental Survey (Whoops!)

<https://forms.office.com/r/tZJYhejXR>

The link I sent out last week for this was not activated – I apologise.

At the end of every term I send out a quick online survey to get your views on how we are doing. Please follow the link above to complete the latest survey.

I wish you all a very peaceful Easter and look forward to a Summer term when hopefully we can ease some of the restrictions and start the gradual process of returning to normal.

Yours faithfully



Rob Russell
Principal

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