

May 28th 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week Dorset Council informed Head Teachers that there had been zero confirmed cases of Covid19 amongst children in school settings across the county. That is obviously great news and enables the academy to push ahead with its plans to gradually return to normality. We will continue to emphasise the importance of hand washing, social distance and ventilation.

### **Changes to Covid19 restrictions in school after half term**

From Monday June 7<sup>th</sup>:

- If DfE advice allows, and it could still change during the half term break, we are planning to remove the Bubbles and Zone restrictions so that students will be able to be taught in specialist rooms across the academy.
- Staff would continue to wear masks in communal spaces.
- Students would not be required to wear masks in school but can do so if they choose.
- Tutor groups will remain in their zones for Tutor time and Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) sessions.
- Year group bubble assemblies in the hall will resume (these have been online this year)
- School Trips will resume (Geography and Photography trips already planned!)
- Sporting competitions will resume

The students will be reissued with new timetables after half term and told about the one way systems and keep to the left rule that we will introduce.

These changes are dependent upon the continued decline in the infection rate in our locality and our not having any cases of Covid19 within the academy. This means that you must still follow the previous guidance and keep children at home and isolated should they display any of the Covid19 symptoms and get them tested. We do not want to have to go back into Bubbles and wearing masks once we have come out of these restrictions!

### **Lateral Flow Tests**

The children must continue to use the Lateral Flow tests every Sunday and Wednesday evening and report the results. If you have a positive test this will need to be followed up by a PCR test at an official test centre and you must isolate until the result of that is known.

#### **Wey Valley Academy**

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

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

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## Drugs Dog Visit Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June

A reminder, following the letter I sent out last week ([click here to read the letter](#)) we have the K9 team visiting the school on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June and students will take part in a series of assemblies and learn about drugs awareness, and see the sniffer dogs in action.

## Uniform and Appearance

We are doing all we can to improve all aspects of Wey Valley Academy and ask for your support with this. Please can I remind parents and carers that we operate a clear uniform policy and we ask that it is adhered to. If anyone is experiencing difficulty in replacing uniform, we may be able to assist you. Please speak with the relevant Head of Year.

### Facial Piercings:

With masks being worn some students have been wearing nose studs to school as they are not visible to staff, this will not be allowed after half term. Our policy allows for ears to be pierced and one stud worn in each ear. Students will be expected to remove any other facial piercings so please wait until the start of the Summer holiday before having any new piercings so they can be safely removed in school.

### Hair:

Hair should be of a natural colour and all one colour.

### PE Kit:

I have mentioned this several times and I am delighted to see so many now in the correct kit. We will continue to contact parents and send students not in uniform home to change.

## Equipment for School

Students need a few key items of basic equipment to be ready to learn, these include a couple of pens, a pencil, a ruler and a calculator.

## Mobile Phones

Mobile phones if brought to school (we would prefer they were left at home) must be turned off and kept out of sight in bags or blazers. We will not be responsible for any loss or damage to mobile phones. We will confiscate any being used in school. The reason for this is that phones allow children unfiltered access to the internet and social media. Across the academy all the computer systems have to be filtered to safeguard the students so to allow children unfiltered access via their phones would be foolish.

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Key Dates – Reminders

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June End of Half Term  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June End of Year Assessments begin  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July INSET day  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July End of term  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept Start of new term

I hope you all have a good half term, the weather is forecast to improve so hopefully the children will be able to get outside and have a fun time.

Wishing you a great Bank Holiday weekend.

Yours faithfully



Rob Russell  
Principal

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