

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you are all well and that the storm and bad weather has not impacted on you too much.

Over the weekend, the Department for Education have informed us of a couple of things that you need to be aware of.

Firstly, on students return to the academy in January, the government would like us once again to conduct on-site lateral flow tests. Students are due to return to the academy on Wednesday 5 January (this is a change to our original term dates) but we may now need to stagger the start of term for different year groups. We will organise a plan and let you know as soon as possible.

Secondly, in response to concerns of a new variant, new government guidance has stated that all staff, students and visitors must wear a face a mask in all communal areas in the academy unless they have an exemption card. Students will also need to wear a face mask on public transport and in shops. At the academy, we have a stock of disposable masks for those students who may forgot theirs but now that they are again mandatory, students will need to bring their own face masks with them. I had previously asked you to contact your child's Head of Year if they were exempt from wearing a mask and exemption cards were issued but if you have any concerns about this then please do get in touch. We will start this tomorrow as I wanted to give yourselves and students' notice.

We would really appreciate your support in ensuring your child has a face mask and that they are wearing it appropriately.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs R Coning  
Headteacher