

Ref DJB/AQG/Letters/9 Parent Carer 9 July 2021

9 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of term, I would like to advise you regarding the end of term arrangements and the beginning of the Autumn Term.

The Academy appreciates that the last couple of weeks have been frustrating, with a large number of bubbles being required to isolate due to positive PCR tests. Please be reminded that as restrictions begin to ease, it is essential that as many students as possible continue to take lateral flow tests twice weekly. These tests minimize the chance of bubbles needing to self-isolate and enable our students to have as normal an educational experience as possible.

It is important that results of the tests are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. This can be done at [www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result). Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

You should also share your child's test result with the school via this link:  
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HnypklpiskmKnVw6Pae-8Gu393UTepOv-LLJKAefjxUMUfFM05SWFdTMTdGUUpPUVNER1pTTjEwTi4u>

If a LFD test at home is positive, you should isolate and book a PCR test as soon as possible. Please note LFD tests should only be used when asymptomatic. PCR tests must be booked when displaying Covid symptoms.

We are very appreciative of your support and understanding during these difficult times.

### **End of Term Arrangements**

The government announced on Tuesday that under-18s will be exempt from isolation for contact with a positive case from 16 August 2021. Also, from 19 July 2021, schools will no longer contact trace; this will be completed via NHS test and trace. 18-year-old students will be exempt from isolation until 4 months after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday to allow them opportunity to get fully vaccinated.

The government also announced the lifting of restrictions for schools from 19 July 2021. However, Fairfax will keep our protective measures in place until students break up in order to reduce the risk of students needing to isolate at the beginning of their holiday. Students should continue to arrive and leave the Academy at their staggered start and end times.

Due to the disruption to students' education for the last 18 months, the Academy will run a usual length school day at the end of term. This means that on Tuesday, 20 July students will leave at their usual staggered time. Please be reminded that this is a non-uniform day; we would ask that students wear clothing appropriate for a normal school day.

Please be advised that due to the number of cases in the Academy and local area, we will not be holding any mass gatherings before the end of term and will expect students to continue to adhere to and follow the measure in place until the end of term, in the hope of avoiding any families needing to isolate during the holiday period.

### **Autumn Term 2021**

The government guidance currently states that there will be no requirement for staggering or bubbling in September 2021. However, the guidance requires a September testing regime similar to March 2021. These beginning of term arrangements will be shared in the coming weeks. Please make sure the deadlines for any consent forms are adhered to.

### **Thank a Staff Member**

The last 18 months have been like no other for education. We have been incredibly proud of our students' resilience through these testing times and are appreciative of the support for the Academy from our parent/carer body. As Head of Academy, I would like to take the time to recognise the work of the staff at Fairfax who have worked tirelessly throughout, in times of uncertainty and ever-changing circumstances. If there is a member of staff that has made a particular difference to your child (or you), please consider recognizing their work via our on-line form

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HnypklpiskmKnVw6Pae-8Gu393UTepOv-LLJKAeFjxUNU1XQU5TNTk5TFM4MURZUDRZTjk0SUdQUC4u>

The form will take less than two minutes to complete and the recognition will no doubt brighten the staff member's day.

Yours sincerely



**MRS D J BUNN**  
**Head of Academy**