



INTHEKNOW

Friday, 14 January 2022

www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk

Safety First Focus Week

As part of our personal development programme we will be running a themed week called 'safety first', w/b Monday, 17 January 2022. Students have had a virtual assembly today, and during next week, students will receive briefings on:

- Safe Use of Technology
- Staying Safe in the Community
- Safe Behaviour in School

Spring Term 2022 Dates Reminder

Spring Term I: Wed, 5 Jan – Fri, 18 Feb 2022

Half-term: Mon, 21 Feb – Fri, 25 Feb 2022

Spring Term II: Tue, 1 Mar – Fri, 8 Apr 2022

Staff Training Days: Tue, 4 Jan and Mon, 28 Feb 2022

Farewell to Staff

We would very much wish to thank Mrs Byfield for her dedication to Fairfax over 14 years, and we wish her well in her new school.

School Shakespeare Festival 2022

This year's School Shakespeare Festival performance of 'A Comedy Of Errors' will take place on Thursday, 20 January 2022 at The MAC Birmingham. Tickets are available from the box office on 0121 446 3232.

Parking Notice

A kindly reminder to parents/carers to please refrain from parking dangerously and blocking roads/driveways when dropping off their children outside school. Please be considerate of other drivers and local residents.

Lateral Flow Test Kits

A reminder that Covid-19 lateral flow test kits for home testing can be collected by students from either Student Support or Reception. Sixth Form students can collect testing kits from Mrs McGuire in the Sixth Form Centre.

SIMS Parent App

A reminder to all parents/carers to check emails for a link to access our new parent SIMS App, which we will be using from now on to keep parents/carers updated about students' life at school. Please contact Miss Clarke with any queries.

AMBITION. RESPECT. KINDNESS. SAFETY.

SAFETY FIRST!

Behaving sensibly on school site

Behaving sensibly in the community

Using technology sensibly and being safe

If you know somebody is behaving unsafely online, please report to your **trusted adult**, post it in the **'Tell Someone' box** in Student Support or use the **SHARP system**.

The SHARP System

FAIRFAX
SINCERITAS LABORIS

ARKS

PRIDE Group Update

A reminder notice: our PRIDE Group meets every two weeks. The group will next meet on Thursday, 20 January 2022 in C13 after school. Then again on Thursday, 3 February and Thursday, 17 February. If you want to find out more, please come along or speak to Ms Ahmed-Lockley in A11 or Mrs Lam in C13.

Equalities Group Update

A reminder notice: our Equalities Group meets every two weeks. The group will next meet on Thursday, 27 January 2022 and then again on Thursday, 10 February 2022. If you want to find out more, please come along or speak to Miss Gardner in C7, Mrs Buckley in G5 or Mrs Williams.

Student Council Update

A reminder notice: our Student Council meets every half term in the Library. If you want to find out more, please come along to the next meeting on Thursday, 27 January 2022, or speak to Mrs Birch in F5. There is also a suggestions box in the Library which the Student Council review at each meeting.



Non-Uniform Day – MIND

Fairfax raised £535.00 for Birmingham Mind. Thank you to everyone that donated. #makingfairfaxproud

PTA Eisteddfod Raffle

Thank you to the PTA for organising an Eisteddfod Raffle. £577.00 was raised. Thank you to everyone who contributed. Prize winners have been notified.

Attendance Matters

Well done to our students whose attendance has been high. A reminder that attendance should be 97%. Attendance improves achievement! Please support Fairfax in maintaining a high level.

Attendance CSAWS

Please be reminded that CSAWS (Central School Attendance and Welfare Service) may conduct a home visit to any family whose child has not attended school and no valid reason has been provided.

Term Time Holiday Requests

A reminder notice: parents/carers are kindly reminded that Fairfax Academy cannot authorise holiday leave during term time. Please be advised doing so may result in penalty charges.

YEAR 7

A reminder notice: on Friday, 28 January 2022 the school nurse vaccination team will be coming into school to administer the flu immunisations (nasal spray). Your child previously received a consent form from their tutor. If you have any queries please email post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: Year 7 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 23 March 2022, 15:45 -18:45. Please be advised that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments will be sent to parents/carers w/b Monday, 14 March 2022. If you have any queries about Parents' Evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

YEAR 8

A reminder notice: on Friday, 28 January 2022 the school nurse vaccination team will be coming into school to administer the flu immunisations (nasal spray). Your child previously received a consent form from their tutor. If you have any queries please email post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: Year 8 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 9 March 2022, 15:45 -18:45. Please be advised that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments will be sent to parents/carers w/b Monday, 28 February 2022. If you have any queries about Parents' Evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

YEAR 9

An advance notice: the Year 9 Options Briefing on Wednesday, 26 January 2022 will now be a **virtual presentation**. A link will be shared with parents/carers on the date of the briefing.

A reminder notice: on Friday, 28 January 2022 the school nurse vaccination team will be coming into school to administer the flu immunisations (nasal spray). Your child previously received a consent form from their tutor. If you have any queries please email post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

YEAR 10

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

An updated notice: Year 10 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 19 January 2022, 15:45 -18:45 **and all appointments will now be telephone calls. Parents/carers will already have received an information email this week with a pin for accessing the bookings system. The booking system will go live at 18:00 on Friday, 14 January 2022.**

If you have any queries about Parents' Evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: on Friday, 28 January 2022 the school nurse vaccination team will be coming into school to administer the flu immunisations (nasal spray). Your child previously received a consent form from their tutor. If you have any queries please email post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

An advance notice: Year 10 Mid-Year Assessments in English and Mathematics will take place in the Sports Hall from Wednesday, 2 February until Friday, 4 February 2022.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

YEAR 11

A reminder notice: Year 11 Intervention sessions will continue this term. Please see the attached overview for the Spring Term.

A reminder notice: on Friday, 28 January 2022 the school nurse vaccination team will be coming into school to administer the flu immunisations (nasal spray). Your child previously received a consent form from their tutor. If you have any queries please email post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

An updated notice: the Year 11 Parent Information Evening will move to **a virtual presentation and this will be shared with parents/carers w/b Monday, 7 February 2022**. Mathematics, English and Science will be the main focus of the information presentation.

A reminder notice: the 2022 Sixth Form Online Application Form is now live on our Academy website. The deadline for applications is Friday, 4 February 2022. Please visit www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/sixth-form.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

YEAR 12

A reminder notice: Year 12 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 2 February 2022, 16:30 -19:30. Please be reminded that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments will be sent to parents/carers w/b Monday, 24 January 2022. If you have any queries about Parents' Evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

A reminder notice: from the Spring Term 2022, the sixth form team will be using the students' school email account to notify them of key messages. All students have an email account through the school, and they should endeavour to log on through their Office 365, the link to which can be found at the bottom of the school's website page under 'external links'.

A reminder notice: we still have students who have not yet submitted their UCAS application. Please note that this must be submitted no later than Monday, 24 January 2022.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

A reminder notice: from the Spring Term 2022, the sixth form team will be using the students' school email account to notify them of key messages. All students have an email account through the school, and they should endeavour to log on through their Office 365, the link to which can be found at the bottom of the school's website page under 'external links'.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

At Fairfax Academy we believe that excellent attendance and punctuality are the key to success. A missed school day is a lost opportunity to learn. Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve higher grades than students who do not have regular attendance.

ABSENCE



Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year and the Government advise that students' attendance should be at least 95%. However, **95% attendance equates to 10 missed days of school; a massive 50 lessons!** Research has shown that students missing 20 days of school performed a whole grade lower in their exams than similar ability students with good attendance.

APPOINTMENTS



Wherever possible appointments should be made out of school time. We understand that at times appointments in the school day are unavoidable. Please provide evidence of the appointment in advance, so that we can amend our school records, and advise the school who will be collecting your child during the school day.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME



Please keep in mind the cost to your child's education should they miss school. Please do not book holidays in term time. Holidays in term time will not be authorised.

PUNCTUALITY



Poor punctuality can have a significant impact on learning time. Across a school year, being **5 minutes late per day results in a loss of 3 days learning per year**. Being **15 minutes** late every day will result in **10 lost days**.

Our school day starts at 8.35am and students should be through the school gate at this time. Students that are late into school will be issued with sanctions in line with our academy Behaviour and Discipline Policy.

ATTENDANCE



At Fairfax Academy we are committed to challenging poor attendance. In cases where a student begins to develop a pattern of absence, the academy will advise the parents/carers that we require an improvement in attendance.

When attendance fails to improve, the school reluctantly takes the line that legal action has to be considered, and the Court Section in Birmingham becomes involved. In previous academic years, cases have been heard, and either a fixed penalty has been issued, or a court appearance has been determined as an appropriate course of action.

95% ATTENDANCE

= 10 missed days = 50 lessons!

5 MINUTES LATE PER DAY

= 3 lost days learning per year

AVOID BOOKING

holidays in term time