

Trentham Academy

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Dears Parents and Carers

It has been great to operate the Academy under normal circumstances and see the students enjoy specialist classrooms, practical activities and sports' fixtures once more. The extra-curricular programme is busy with many students attending the clubs and enjoying competitive sporting fixtures. Year 7 have settled well into the Academy and all students have quickly adapted to moving around the Academy for lessons once more. Year 11 have returned with a determined approach to their studies and are now working towards their first mock examinations after half term; we wish them every success in these.

You will be aware that local cases of Covid have risen in recent days and we are keen to ensure that the staff and students stay well in the approach to half term. For this reason, we will reintroduce the following Covid mitigation strategies for the final week of this half-term in addition to ongoing hand hygiene and ventilation measures:

- All staff and students to wear masks, unless exempt, in indoor communal areas
- Assembly will revert to Zoom
- Desks will be wiped by students at the end of each lesson
- Students will be encouraged to sanitise their hands more frequently
- Parents and visitors should only attend the Academy site for pre-arranged appointments or meetings

In addition, students will continue to use the outdoor spaces at breaktime and lunchtime when it is dry. We have recently purchased more tables for these spaces to ensure everyone has the opportunity to sit down. Students are also able to sit in the well-ventilated dining room to eat their food before going outside if they prefer. It is essential the students have a suitable coat for break time and lunchtime. They may also wear a plain black jumper under their blazer, but hoodies are not acceptable.



We have sent 2 letters earlier in the week explaining the current government guidance surrounding Covid and how the local authority has extended this in light of current infection rates. In summary, the advice from Stoke-on-Trent Local Authority is as follows:

Students should:

- Continue with twice weekly LFT testing and get a PCR within 48 hours of a positive LFT
- Continue with good hand hygiene
- Have a PCR test if they have Covid symptoms, and stay at home until the results are received
- Have a PCR test if someone in the household has Covid and stay at home until the results are received
- Follow the advice of Track and Trace if a positive PCR result is received
- If someone in the house has Covid and the first PCR is negative, return to the Academy but take a 2nd PCR test after 4-5 days.

We very much appreciate your continued support in ensuring we mitigate against Covid as much as possible to ensure the community stays safe and well. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the Academy using trentham@clt.trentham.coop

Yours sincerely



Mike Whittingham
Headteacher

