EEMSept2020/Dec2020/Endofterm/Y11

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I hope you and your families are keeping well in these very difficult times. I would like to thank you all for your support during the Autumn Term which has seen numerous challenges in dealing with a return to school during this global pandemic. Our learners have tackled this challenge with a huge sense of respect for each other and the academy community. The young people that have had to face a period of self isolation have risen to this challenge by engaging successfully in a varied programme of distance learning. I am sure you will agree with me when I say that I am very proud of the way that our teachers and support staff have enabled our Academy to remain open for the whole half term and the sacrifices that staff have made to ensure that our provision can continue. Live lessons on Microsoft TEAMs have allowed many specialist lessons to go ahead, both whilst learners are isolating at home and also at times where staff are isolating at home supplemented by high quality distance learning work set by our teachers. Thank you to the whole Academy community for rising to the challenge that Covid-19 has presented.

Learners break up for Christmas on **Thursday 17 December at the end of the day**.

Learners return to the Academy on **Monday 4 January**, arriving at 8.30am and entering via the Y11 entrance.

When learners return, the Y11 Upgrade lessons will continue on Tuesdays/Wednesdays and Thursdays 3.00pm-3.45pm. Please be aware that Y11 Upgrade forms part of the regular school timetable for Y11 learners and all young people are expected to attend the sessions every day. In January we will be launching a new rewards programme for Y11 upgrade attendance.

On Monday 4 January, learners will report to their form room for Period 1 with their form tutor as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Form Group** | **Form Tutor** | **Classroom** |
| 11KS | Miss Stanford | B101 |
| 11 KT | Ms Hignett | B102 |
| 11 MH | Miss Thacker | B103 |
| 11 ML | Miss Jandu | B104 |
| 11 CC | Mrs Jervis and Miss Smith | B201 |
| 11BS | Miss Cross | B202 |
| 11 CR | Mr Purcell | B203 |
| 11 BL | Mrs Moore | B204 |

Your child will be expected to wear full school uniform, please be aware that trainers, hoodies and facial piercings are not permitted in the Academy (trainers can only be worn for PE lessons).

Your child must bring the following equipment. It is crucial that they are fully equipped for school every day as we will not be loaning or sharing equipment due to ongoing Covid-19 guidance.

Essential equipment

* Black pen
* Green pen
* Red pen
* HB pencil
* Ruler
* Calculator
* Glue stick (no liquid glue please)
* Planner (provided on first day in September)
* Highlighters (yellow, green and pink).

Desirable equipment

* Pencil crayons

Mrs Haggart is the Vice Principal linked to Year 11 and should you have any specific queries please email her on vhaggart@thelinkacademy.org.uk. Mrs Edwards is your child’s Year 11 Learning Manager and her email address is kedwards@thelinkacademy.org.uk, she will continue to support your child with their return to school and can be contacted if any welfare concerns arise.

All return to school plans are subject to government guidance and we very much look forward to welcoming your child back to The Link Academy in January. We wish you all a very happy and safe festive period.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Emma Edwards-Morgan (Principal)