



16th July 2021

Dear parent/carer,

I wanted to write to you all as we approach the end of this academic year. What a year it has been! From lockdowns, to online learning, returns to school, bubbles bursting, isolating, etc etc. The list continues. I would like to thank you for your continued support. Whilst this has been frustrating in many ways, we have been able to work together, to support all.

Things will look a little different in September. Following government announcements, there will no longer be bubbles and zones within schools. Things will start to look more 'normal'. We will no longer be contact tracing within the academy as this will be managed by the Test and Trace App. As well as this isolation periods will only exist for those who have symptoms.

Following guidelines we will be testing students on return from the summer holidays. We will be sending out a schedule of testing including timings, however the main overview is below:

Friday 27 th Aug	Year 7				Year 11
Tuesday 31 st Aug	Year 7				Year 11
Wednesday 1 st Sept		Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	
Thursday 2 nd Sept					
Friday 3 rd Sept					
Monday 6 th Sept		Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	

We will also be sending out a message regarding consent for testing. Please do make sure to update this if there are any changes.

In terms of the last week of this term, no changes will be made to zones or bubbles. These will remain in place until the end of term. The Department for Education Guidance specifically says:

"If your school is still open at Step 4, you may wish to continue with these measures until the end of your summer term."

In terms of things to keep, we will continue with the timings of the day, i.e. the main change being a staggered lunch. We have found that students have enjoyed having their own spaces for lunch, as well as it being a calmer environment around the Academy.

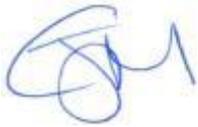
The return to schools for student do work around the testing timetable above, this means a staggered start but just to clarify:

Year 7	Thursday 2 nd Sept
Year 8	Monday 6 th Sept
Year 9	Monday 6 th Sept
Year 10	Monday 6 th Sept
Year 11	Friday 3 rd Sept

All preparations are also in place for the Sixth form move and the opening of Bluecoat Trent Academy on this site for September. Which leads me on to informing you all that there will be a temporary change in principal next year as Miss McManus takes up her role as principal of Bluecoat Trent Academy and I begin my maternity leave, Miss Angela Wells will be the Acting Principal. I'm sure she looks forward to meeting you all in September.

Once again I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the year. Whilst it has been a difficult I continue to feel so privileged to hold the position that I do within the Academy and to work with all our young people and families.

Have a lovely break, keep safe,
Regards,



Mrs Cath Rowell
Principal, Bluecoat Aspley Academy