

26 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Principal's Newsletter

I hope you and your family members are all well. Firstly, thank you for your support yesterday. It goes without saying that the safety of students and staff is always of the utmost importance. I am pleased to report that the health and safety issue was quickly resolved, and I am sorry for the unfortunate disruption to yesterday's lessons. We will – as always – ensure all students catch up on any missed work.

Lateral Flow Device Testing:

We will ensure all participating students are given a new home kit ahead of the weekend. Please remember that all tests should be taken 3 to 5 days apart, and that students should carry out 2 tests a week. The home kits can also be obtained from Miss Watson at BOA Reception, should students need a replacement.

Cases of COVID-19:

I received news yesterday that a student received a positive result from one of the lateral flow device tests, which had been carried out at the student's home (as per the instructions). Even though COVID-19 cases are on the decline in the UK and many of us have now received the first vaccination, it appears we may still encounter cases from time to time. It is prudent, as a result, to continue to be vigilant when at home, at work and in the academy so that we can minimise disruption to education. This is of the utmost importance for years 11 and 13 as they enter their final, crucial weeks at the academy. Please stay safe and continue to follow the advice from the UK Government and National Health Service.

Year 11 and Year 13 Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs):

My colleague, Mr Painter (Assistant Principal) has sent out letters to all students in Year 11 and Year 13 regarding teacher-assessed grades, as well as sending a letter to all parents and carers. If you have not received these letters (sent to student email accounts and the email accounts we hold for parents/carers), please contact me and I will ensure you receive a copy.

Year 11 Showcases:

Congratulations to Year 11 Acting students, who – despite yesterday's disruption – successfully delivered their performances of 'Ceasefire Babies' by Fiona Doyle. Thank you to students in Broadcast and Technical Theatre Arts for their hard work and support during the production. Congratulations to Year 11 Musical Theatre students, who successfully filmed a number of the vignettes for their production of 'Just So' yesterday. I will write to you with details of how to view the performances shortly.

Until I write again, I hope you all stay safe and well.

Yours truly,



Alistair Chattaway
Principal