

Formby High School

'Determined to Achieve'



DMA/LFO

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28 April 2021

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Dear Parent

As we are now several weeks into what promises to be a full and busy term, I would like to provide some helpful information updates.

The Big Ask

The new Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched [The Big Ask](#) – the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 to 17 in England. It aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, so that the Government can put children at the heart of our country's recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. I would strongly encourage all students to [complete this survey](#) to support this important development and we will be sharing information about The Big Ask with students during tutor periods. The Government is also inviting parents, care leavers and those working with children [to complete the adult survey](#) to share their views about the future for children and young people today, and what they think is holding young people back. The results from this survey will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve.



Staff Update

Mr O'Shaughnessy, Director of Sixth Form and Teacher of English, has confirmed his intention to retire at the end of this school year after 27 years of outstanding service. Under Mr O'Shaughnessy's charismatic leadership, FHS Sixth Form has developed and grown over the years into the fantastic community it currently represents. I am sure you will join me in wishing 'Mr O' a very long, happy and fulfilling retirement when the time comes.

Assessment of Students in Years 10, 11 and 13

Students who would have taken public examinations this summer are currently completing in class assessments that will provide important information to assist their teachers in making grading decisions. The response from students to their assessments has been excellent – I can see how hard they are working and their collective ambition to succeed. Shortly, I will write to students and parents receiving grades this year to outline how the grading process will be conducted. In addition, I have decided to end the school day for all students at 12.30pm on Friday 28 May (the last day of this half term) to give teachers much needed time to carry out work related to marking and standardising assessments in readiness for generating grades. There will be no lunch service to students on that day. Please also remember that Monday 7 June 2021 is an INSET day (closed to students). Students will, therefore, break up for half term at 12:30pm on Friday 28 May 2021 and return to school on Tuesday 8 June 2021 (week two).





Home Testing

I would like to offer my thanks to students and parents who are supporting the home testing programme which is playing its part in the overall portfolio of measures nationally to bring infection levels down. It is also helping to ensure we can minimise the impact of asymptomatic cases on the continued education of all our students. I would like to remind students to keep up the good work and continue to test every Sunday and Wednesday evening, making sure they report their results both to the [NHS](#) and FHS each time.

Travel to School

Understandably, roads and public transport systems are now busier than when students returned in March, given other businesses have reopened. I would like to remind students of some key points to remember to keep them, and others, safe:

- if you live a short distance from your school or college, walk, cycle or scoot to and from school wherever it is possible and safe to do so
- avoid sharing a car with anyone outside of your household or support bubble
- if you are using public transport to get to school or college, plan ahead and allow more time for your journey
- when you are travelling by public or dedicated school transport, don't forget to:
 - wear a face covering (unless you are exempt). It is important that you wear it for the entirety of your journey, including inside a train station
 - social distance where possible
 - wash or sanitise your hands regularly
 - be considerate to fellow passengers and staff



PE Kit

This is a reminder that students should wear their PE kit school on the days that they have PE lessons. They should not wear their own sports clothing and should ensure they wear their blazer over the PE kit. If students attend school in clothing that is not appropriate for school they may be asked to return home to change into their PE kit or school uniform.

Parking on Freshfield Road

Please try to avoid parking immediately outside the school gates on either side of Freshfield Road. At the start and end of the school day the road is very busy and parked cars cause inconvenience and present a hazard to other road users and pedestrians.

Hands - Face - Space - Fresh Air

Students are now fluent and overwhelmingly supportive of the measures in place to promote the health and safety of our school and wider community. I would ask that everyone continue to be vigilant and follow these simple guidelines routinely.

Yours sincerely

D A Mackenzie
Headteacher