

Formby High School

'Determined to Achieve'



DMA/LFO

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Dear Parent

As we begin the Easter break, I wanted to provide some important information to parents and students.

Covid Update

As outlined in the government's Living with Covid plan, the UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency) has today published updated guidance outlining how Covid-19 will now be managed in line with guidance for other respiratory infections.

From 1 April, there will no longer be a need for most people with or without symptoms to take a Covid-19 test and free testing will no longer be available. Indeed, testing for students under 18 is no longer recommended (unless they have medical advice to do so). Instead, students should follow the appropriate guidance in place for respiratory infections. The UKHSA [guidance for people with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19, or a positive test result for COVID-19](#) provides full information and I would draw your attention in particular to the section relating to [young people under the age of 18 years who have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including Covid-19](#) which contains specific guidance regarding attendance at school.

The key points to note are that children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend. Furthermore, children with a positive Covid-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for three days.

I would like to thank you in advance for your full support with the new measures so that our school community can continue its return to normal, less disruptive routines.

Uniform, Shoes and Equipment

Thank you to all students and parents for their support with school uniform/shoes standards and ensuring your child is fully equipped for their lessons. Correct school uniform and being fully equipped are essential to fostering a positive and orderly school environment, ensuring lesson time is used purposefully and avoiding time wastage which we can ill-afford after such a long period of disruption. Please use the school holiday to purchase new uniform or equipment if required so your child returns fully prepared for next half term. In particular, I would like to remind you that students are not permitted to wear canvas trainers to school. We have a healthy supply of pre-loved uniform; if you require any items please contact Mrs Brooks (Pastoral Outreach Worker) who will assist as required.





Revision Sessions

During the Easter break some subjects are offering revision sessions in school for students to attend. They will have received information about these directly from their teachers. If attending, they do not have to wear school uniform but should ensure they are fully equipped and travel safely to and from school. All students will be required to sign in at the beginning of each revision session they attend. I do hope our students who are facing public examinations this summer take advantage of this opportunity for supported study.

Attendance

Without a doubt, maintaining good attendance has been a challenge this school year. Currently, school attendance stands at just over 90% and we are hoping this will continue to improve next term. To support this, we have appointed Mrs Hesk as our new Attendance Officer. Mrs Hesk has worked in similar roles in other schools and will be joining our attendance team at the beginning of next term. Please be mindful of the fact that I am not able to authorise requests for leave of absence during term time unless in exceptional circumstances.

Acknowledgement of feedback on lunchtime consultation

I would like to thank those parents who took the time to provide us with feedback about lunchtime arrangements to help support our decision-making as to whether to revert to a single lunch break. Your views are very important and they will be carefully considered before decisions are taken. As my previous correspondence outlined, the deadline for responses is today and I will write to parents in due course with further information.

FocusOn... Newsletter

I hope that you are able take a few minutes each fortnight (Friday of Week 2) to read our school newsletter, FocusOn... which celebrates the vibrant life and work of the school, particularly the many accomplishments of our students. The latest issue is out today and there is a fabulous back catalogue of earlier editions [available on our website here](#).

I would like to wish you all a restful and enjoyable Spring break and look forward to all students returning to school on Tuesday 19 April (Week 1).

Yours sincerely

D A Mackenzie
Headteacher