

ALEC REED ACADEMY



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Acting Principal and CEO: Phil Cosby

2nd September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer of all Phases,

I hope you are all keeping well and that the summer break has been enjoyable for you and your families. I write to you today to confirm the arrangements for the start of the new term and some key dates for your diary.

Monday 1st November

On Monday 1st November the academy will be having an additional Professional Development Day to ensure that all staff are fully up to speed with the revised expectations of the Department for Education regarding closing gaps in lost learning. As a result the academy will be closed to all pupils.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee 3rd June

To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee an additional Bank Holiday has been set on the 3rd June 2022. As this falls in the Spring Half term holiday all schools have been given an additional day's holiday. This will be the last day of the summer term – Friday 22nd July. The last day of term will therefore be Thursday 21st July.

Covid-19

The vaccination programme has reduced the fear of Coronavirus and as a result the academy will return to pre-covid arrangements in terms of the organisation of the day and the school will operate without bubbles. However, we cannot be complacent, and must remember the mantra of hands, face and space. With this in mind hand sanitiser will still be available in classrooms and, in the secondary phase, we will continue to expect pupils to wear face masks in communal areas or enclosed spaces with poor ventilation for example in assemblies and dinner queues. We will keep this under review should there be national or local outbreaks and revised advice from public health officials.

As was the case before the holiday pupils should not come into school if they have symptoms of COVID-19 and they will be sent home should they develop symptoms whilst in school. In both of these scenarios public health advice should be followed, and a PCR test taken as soon as possible. If the test result is negative then the pupil can return to school. If a positive case is recorded, then the pupil must isolate for ten days and we ask that you notify the Academy immediately. Please be reassured that for most people, especially children and those that have been vaccinated, coronavirus will be a mild illness.

The revised legislation means that children should continue to attend school as normal unless they themselves are displaying symptoms or have tested positive. Even if they live in the same household or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19. Bubbles or close contacts of pupils will no longer be sent home to self-isolate, this will significantly reduce the level of disruption to learning but does place an increased responsibility on parents to inform the school if your child tests positive for Covid-19. We will then be able to "warn and inform" the families of close contacts and friends of your child so that they can organise a PCR test.

Return Dates and the Testing Programme

The table below confirms the staggered return dates for different year groups within the academy. Please note that some year groups do not return until Wednesday 8th September. As pupils will have mixed with lots of other people during the summer holidays, all secondary age pupils will receive 2 on-site lateral flow device tests, on their return to school. The timings of these tests are also shown below. We will also continue to distribute home tests.

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Year Groups	Return Date	Start time
Nursery and Reception	Children have a graduated return date	Parents will have already received a letter explaining the start date and time.
Years 1 – 6	Monday 6 th September	Start 8.30am
Year 7	Monday 6 th September	Arrive 8.30am for an 8.40am start. Extended form period on first day. Testing permission slips will be sent home to parents. First Lateral Flow Test will be on Thursday 9 th September Second Lateral Flow Test will be on Monday 13 th September
Year 8	Tuesday 7 th September	Arrive 8.30am for an 8.40am start. First Lateral Flow test will be on Tuesday 7 th September Second Lateral Flow test will be on Friday 10 th September
Year 9	Wednesday 8 th September	Arrive 8.30am for an 8.40am start. First Lateral Flow test will be on Wednesday 8 th September Second Lateral Flow test will be on Monday 13 th September
Year 10	Wednesday 8 th September	Arrive 8.30am for an 8.40am start. First Lateral Flow test will be on Wednesday 8 th September Second Lateral Flow test will be on Monday 13 th September
Year 11	Tuesday 7 th September	Arrive 8.30 am for an 8.40am start. First Lateral Flow test will be on Tuesday 7 th September Second Lateral Flow test will be on Friday 10 th September
Year 12	Monday 6 th September	Arrive 8.30am for an 8.40am start. Extended form period on first day. First Lateral Flow test will be on Monday 6 th September. After testing and enrolment students will be allowed home and return the next day. Second Lateral Flow test will be on Thursday 9 th September
Year 13	Wednesday 8 th September	Arrive 8.30am for an 8.40am start. First Lateral Flow test will be on Wednesday 8 th September Second Lateral Flow test will be on Monday 13 th September

I know that my staff are determined to continue to provide the best possible education for your child, whatever the future may bring. Rest assured that, should the Covid situation worsen then we will amend our plans to ensure the safety of our community. This would include the reintroduction of bubbles and staggered timings of the day should this be deemed necessary.

Do please continue to watch my weekly updates on social media and do make contact via enquiries@alecreedacademy.co.uk should you have any suggestions for how we can further improve the academy and the education we provide.

Kind regards,

Phil Cosby
Acting Principal & CEO