



23 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope my letter finds you all safe and well. This term has again been busy; it has been great to welcome all our students back to St Anne's Academy. I would like to thank all our staff, parents and carers for the efforts the school community has shown over this term to ensure that students could continue with their learning as best as possible during the national lockdown. We ensured that live lessons were taught, provided free school meals and vouchers to those families that need this support and distributed over 300 devices to families so they could get online. We also took on the mammoth task of testing all our students three times and distributing home test kits. This really was a big effort by all involved, thank you for working with us to make the return of students successful.

With regards to home testing, please ensure that;

1. You don't stop testing over the Easter break [further kits will be provided]
2. You test your child just before he/she returns to school after the Easter break, ideally the night before

Now that we are all back in school, we must follow Public Health advice and conduct track and trace procedures as and when there are any positive cases within the school community. We will keep you fully informed of any developments with this and we will follow Public Health advice throughout.

Easter Message from our Chaplain, Mr McQuaid

This Easter, it is a time to celebrate the gift God gave to us through the death, burial and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ. A time when we think about the ultimate sacrifice God made, as a father, by sending his one and only son. No matter how difficult the last 12 months have been, Easter has a word of hope for you. God's not dead, he is alive. Jesus' resurrection has tremendous implications for us all. He is risen means that he is present, he is with you and that means we have hope today.

May you and your family be blessed as you celebrate the true meaning of Easter, from the reflection of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Sunday and the promise of eternal life. May your life be blessed with joy and prosperity.

Best wishes to you this Easter.

Ofsted

As you will all be aware, St Anne's Academy was inspected on 23 February 2021. Thank you to all the parents and carers who responded so positively to the parent survey. The outcome of the inspection was positive, and the letter will be published in full very soon on the Ofsted Website.

Year 11 GCSE Qualifications

As you will be aware the government has announced that GCSE examinations will not take place again this summer.

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Instead, students will be given teacher assessment grades. St Anne's is working with the Examination Boards and other professional organisations to ensure we have robust quality assurance procedures in place to ensure that students are awarded fair grades that reflect their efforts. More information will follow to parents and carers of Year 11 students as it is released.

Uniform Update

As summer approaches, may I take this opportunity to remind you all that light blue polo shirts which were previously worn by students during the summer term are no longer part of our uniform, however, short-sleeved white shirts are acceptable instead. Also, I'd like to remind all parents and carers that we are moving to black leather shoes as part of the uniform from September, as consulted upon last year.

Blazers with the new logo and a navy-blue PE polo shirt and matching hoody are also being phased in with new Year 7 students expected to have them in September. Students in older year groups can upgrade as they buy new uniform.

Extra-Curricular Provision

After Easter, we are relaxing the restrictions on extra-curricular provision and a limited number of activities will resume. We will monitor this and inform you of any changes, but we believe that it is important that students get the opportunity to participate in activities that they enjoy. We are pleased to be able to offer this provision to our students once again.

Start of the School Day

After the Easter break, all students will revert to starting the school day at 08:30. This is a move towards normality where all students start school at the same time each day and will allow all year groups to benefit from a full 30 minutes of Form time/Assembly time each morning before their first lesson commences at 09:00. Doors will open at 08:25 each morning. This change can be managed safely as students will continue to enter via their allocated year group entrance and year groups bubbles will continue to operate.

Transition, New Year 7 September 2021

I am delighted to have welcomed our new September 2021, Year 7 cohort to our community. I am pleased to inform you that we are once again full in this year group, with a waiting list that is getting longer each day. St Anne's is quickly becoming the school of choice in the area.

Cranmer Education Trust Official Celebration: 19 April 2021

St Anne's will officially celebrate becoming part of the Cranmer Education Trust when students return to school after Easter on 19 April 2021. Celebration assemblies will take place all week and students will receive their new tie at no cost in their year group assembly, starting with Year 7 on Monday. The Bishop of Middleton will also join us for the celebrations.

I hope you and your families enjoy a peaceful Easter break and I look forward to seeing all our students safely back at school after the holidays.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Heyes
Headteacher

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