

23rd October 2020



**Southfields
Academy**

**Principal:
Ms Jacqueline Valin**

**Headteacher:
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Dear Parent/Carer

As the first half term of this academic year draws to a close, I want to begin by thanking you for your support during what has continued to be a very challenging time for us all. Without your support we would not have been able to offer the quality and quantity of education that we have been able to since September.

Your child has shown great resilience and fortitude in working with us to keep everyone in our community safe. They have adapted to the various safety protocols, such as wearing face coverings in corridors and communal areas, even when these changes have been imposed at short notice.

Despite the challenges we have faced as a community, we are proud that we have remained fully open throughout this half term and sincerely hope we are able to continue to do so in the coming months. I acknowledge that in our efforts to do this, the regulations that have enabled it have taken a toll on our students and staff who are now all very tired as we start the half term break.

So that we can continue to operate as successfully as we have been, may I remind you of some important points ahead of the start of the new half term:

- There are rising numbers of cases of the virus in London and we cannot let our guard down at all. During break times, students will continue to be outside, unless they are eating in the dining zone. The weather is getting colder so please ensure your child is wearing their full school uniform as well as adequate layers and a suitable coat to keep them warm and dry.
- Face coverings are compulsory in communal indoor spaces, such as corridors. Your child may also wear one in lessons but this is optional.
 - Your child should have two face coverings – one for travel to school i.e. the bus and one for school. We have reusable face coverings for sale for £1 if you require them. Please remind your child they must not share their mask and that, if reusable, it must be washed regularly. If they chose to use a disposable mask, please ensure they dispose of it safely.
 - Face coverings must be plain, without obvious logos or decoration.
 - If there is a medical reason why your child cannot wear a face covering, please inform your child's Head of Year. Your child will be given an exemption lanyard or pass attached to their diary to denote this.
- A reminder that face coverings are compulsory on all public transport.
- Students should attend the Academy each day in full school uniform. Students not doing so may be sent home to change into the correct uniform.
- From the start of the new half term, students must not use their mobile phone within the Academy, unless this has been authorised by a teacher as part of a lesson. Students must ensure phones are switched off and put away before entering the Academy. Mobile phones may be confiscated from students who do not adhere to this rule. Sixth Form students may use their phones during study periods but only when they are seated in designated study areas such as the dining area or study space.
- A reminder that students must travel directly to and from the Academy. They should not go to Southside shopping centre, unless accompanied by a parent. Whilst wearing our uniform, students are ambassadors for the Academy and, as such, should behave appropriately while travelling to and from school.

- As we approach firework season, parents/carers should remind all students that the possession of fireworks, or other explosive items, is prohibited and could result in a permanent exclusion if brought to the Academy. In order to ensure the safety of all students and staff, senior leaders will be conducting searches for banned items in the coming weeks. Please discuss this with your child.
- Remote learning via Google Classrooms – by now every student has been required to submit homework regularly via Google Classroom for each subject, in addition to class resources being uploaded here when appropriate, so they understand how to interact with online learning and expectations. Please see the attached Educational Tiers information to understand the actual and remote learning expectations for each tier. Should we enter an Educational Tier or be required to send home a year group, or part of one, you will be signposted to the necessary information through our website on the remote learning guidance, expectations and protocols.
 - **Please note, when your child is using Google Classrooms, please tell them NOT to click on the option “Join and use a phone for audio” or the phone icon as this can result in very large phone charges.**

Thank you again for your continuing support and I wish you and your family a safe and refreshing half term break.

Yours sincerely



Wanda Golinska
Headteacher

Educational Tiers of Restriction – issued September 2020

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
<p>Schools are fully open with control measures in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staggered starts and finishes • Year group bubbles and outdoor zones • Staggered breaks and use of dining zones • Enhanced cleaning • Hygiene protocols for students and staff • Safe classroom protocols • Site movement protocols • Face coverings can be worn by students and staff across the site <p>All staff and students expected to attend on site. Self-isolating students have access to teaching materials via Google Classrooms.</p> <p>Face coverings to be worn by staff and students indoors when local area is in tier 2 restrictions.</p>	<p>Primary schools remain open fully. The Academy adopts a 'blended learning' approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students attend on a rota model, one week on-site, one week home learning • Tier 1 safety and hygiene protocols remain in place • The wearing of face coverings in all indoor areas (with the exception of the classroom) become compulsory at this tier • Vulnerable students and children of critical workers attend full-time. • Students self-isolating interact with blended provision at home <p>Restricted visitors to the Academy. Staff remain on site to provide 'blended' teaching.</p>	<p>Primary schools remain open fully. The Academy provides remote learning for most students. The Government will direct which Year groups should attend on-site provision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulnerable students and children of critical workers attend full-time. • Students self-isolating engage in remote learning • Enhanced safety and hygiene protocols on-site • The wearing of face coverings in all indoor areas (with the exception of the classroom) become compulsory at this tier • Selected Year groups attend on-site provision (operational guidance from government will inform us which groups and in what proportions). <p>No visitors to the Academy. Staff remain on site to provide remote and on-site teaching.</p>	<p>Only vulnerable groups expected to attend.</p>