

31st March 2022



**Southfields
Academy**

**Principal:
Ms Jacqueline Valin**

**Headteacher:
Ms Wanda Golinska**

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Dear Parent/Carer

We are now two-thirds of the way through the academic year and our students have accomplished much since September. Having operated under various restrictions for so long, it has been so good for the community to arrive at a new version of normality in which students can once again flourish and make uninterrupted progress in their education.

Covid

We are mindful that Covid is still a reality though and remains present in our community. The Department for Education has issued updated guidance, effective 1st April, which advises:

- 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
- Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

If your child is unwell, please do follow the DfE guidance and notify our absence line on 020 8875 2634 or via natalie.stearn@southfieldsacademy.com We have recently seen the highest levels of Covid amongst our staff and students since the pandemic began. This has impacted on all but, due to the systems we have in place, we have been able to provide all lessons to our students and, where a teacher has been absent, cover has been provided by another member of teaching staff or one of our team of specialist Cover Supervisors.

Financial Matters

We are conscious that we are all facing many rising costs which will mean great financial pressure for many. If your circumstances have changed and your child may be eligible for Free School Meals, please visit the link below, complete the form and hand it in to the General Office. It will be passed on to the Local Authority who verify applications.

<https://parents.southfieldsacademy.com/page/?title=Free+School+Meals&pid=199>

Exam Preparation and Holiday Homework

Our year groups who will soon be taking their GCSEs and A Levels have been working hard to be fully prepared to meet the challenge of these. If your child in Year 11, 12 or 13 will be taking exams, please help them to maintain their momentum by encouraging and supporting them to complete the revision work that has been set for the holiday period.

All other students have also been set holiday homework which is an important part of their learning. Please ensure that they complete this.

Mobile Phones

I will be writing a further letter to you soon giving further details regarding Academy rules and expectations around the use of mobile phones by students. Please support this by beginning a discussion with your child about the appropriate use of their phone. The Academy rules have not changed and the use of mobile phones during the school day is not permitted.

Uniform

Although the weather has turned chilly very recently, by the time we return in April we expect temperatures to be milder therefore, students will no longer be permitted to wear hats while on site. A reminder also that your child's coat should be plain black with no obvious logos on display.

Our uniform expectations can be found on the website

<https://parents.southfieldsacademy.com/page/?title=Uniform+%26amp%3B+Equipment&pid=39>

Please use the Easter break to renew any uniform or equipment that your child may need.

We do have a limited supply of second hand uniform available. Please email ria.butler@southfieldsacademy.com to enquire about this.

Changes to Arrangements for Student Arrivals at the Start of the School Day

When students return after the holiday they will no longer enter the site through the back gate in the park. With the removal of restrictions, we will return to morning entry through the dining hall doors next to the reception in Burr Road.

On entry, students will be able to purchase toast and jam (2 pieces) for 10p and hot chocolate for 20p.

Safeguarding

As with previously holiday times, our Designated Safeguarding Lead will be available to take urgent calls on 07379 862150. This number will only be operational from Monday to Friday during the holidays and not at weekends or on Bank Holidays.

With best wishes to you and your family over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely



Wanda Golinska
Headteacher