

24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you to those of you who attended our virtual information event for parents this week. We had a large number of parents attending so I am grateful to you for your interest in your child's education and also for your support. I apologise for the lack of opportunity to put your questions to the leadership team but if you have a question that was not answered during the session, please email it to [info@southfieldsacademy.com](mailto:info@southfieldsacademy.com)

We are planning to hold similar events every half term, each with a slightly different format that will involve students and other members of staff taking part and speaking to parents.

If you missed the event, you can view it through our secure site here, it will be available until the end of next week:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dX958emoRuzsESltWaOojxT5nuBk-7rW/view?usp=sharing>

### **Covid Vaccinations for 12-15 year olds**

I shared with you at the virtual event that the vaccination programme for students aged 12-15 years old will begin soon at the Academy. We are awaiting the consent letter from the local authority but will send this to you as soon as we receive it along with details of when the vaccinations will be given.

Although the vaccinations are a major step towards reducing the transmission of Covid in our community, I would ask you to remain vigilant as I am aware that there is Covid circulating in the Academy and wider community. Please continue to test your child twice weekly with a Lateral Flow Device test on Sunday and Wednesday. If they are positive, please keep them at home and arrange a PCR test. If the PCR result is positive, they must self-isolate at home. If your child has symptoms, please keep them at home and arrange a PCR test as soon as possible. For contacts of those who test positive, NHS Test and Trace will be in touch with next steps.

### **Staff Training**

With the introduction of new IT systems this term at the Academy, I am scheduling time for all staff to receive training away from their teaching and support duties. To this end, on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October** morning registration and lessons will run as usual but students will finish after period 3 (12.08pm) and be dismissed to go home at this time. Work will be set for all students to complete during the afternoon.

### **Year 7 Meet the Tutor Event**

Mr Samuels, Head of Year 7, has been communicating with relevant parents about this event which has been rescheduled. To avoid any confusion, please follow the instructions in his letter for the event which will take place on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September**.

### **Free School Meals (FSM)**

You may have heard in the news that the temporary element of Universal Credit will be stopped from next month. Some parents may not be aware that they qualify for free school meals for their child which is worth £2.40 per day. If you are not sure if you qualify, I would encourage you to complete the [FSM application form available by clicking here](#), submit it to the General Office who will then forward it to the Local Authority to check if you are eligible.

With best wishes for a good weekend.

Yours sincerely



Wanda Golinska  
Headteacher



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