31st March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of the spring term, it feels as if all members of the community need a break to refuel ready to commence the final part of the academic year.

It has been a real pleasure to see the return of students to school and it is clear that spending time with friends has boosted morale for so many students. Understandably, there is a sense of excitement and some temporary relief from what is going on elsewhere. This is much needed. Students and staff, alike, yearn for that sense of normality and I hope that the summer term will bring with it familiar order and certainty in a calm way.

## **Expectations**

In order to achieve an orderly return to familiar routines, we would like to re-establish those high expectations that make students feel proud and focussed, ready to proceed with their academic study. Please take a moment to read through these expectations with your child:

### **Student Expectations of High Standards**

- Take responsibility for keeping yourself and others safe; on the way to school, in school and on your way home.
- At school take every opportunity to learn; in your lessons, from your teachers, tutors and peers.
- Always take responsibility for your actions. Find opportunity for acts of kindness and equally be prepared to make reparations when you have erred.

### Code of Conduct

- Follow all instructions.
- Treat everybody with respect.
- Keep hands and feet to yourself.

### Covid-Adapted Rules

- Wear your face covering in all indoor areas, including classrooms as well as corridors and dining spaces\*.
- Move swiftly through the one way systems in corridors, stairwells, dining spaces and in outdoor channels. Do not gather in groups or wait for friends after lessons.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or sanitise at every entry point: at the gate, coming indoors and entering classrooms.

### **Covid-Related Protocols**

### **Face Coverings**

Next term we continue with Covid related protocols.

\*On reopening the Academy from 8<sup>th</sup> March, DfE guidance stated we should be wearing face coverings in classrooms as well as in all other indoor areas. We were told that this requirement would be reviewed at the Easter break. The most recent communication from the DfE signals no change to this at present hence, we will continue with wearing masks in classrooms until further notice.

### Timetable

The same timetable of staggered starts and finishes resumes after the Easter break. When not in lessons or in the dining hall, students will remain in their outdoor zones.



CARPE DIEM Southfields Academy

Principal: Ms Jacqueline Valin

Headteacher: Ms Wanda Golinska

> 333 Merton Road London SW18 5JU

Tel: 020 8875 2600 Fax: 020 8874 9949

E-mail: info@southfieldsacademy.com Website: www.southfieldsacademy.com

### **Contact Tracing Over the Easter Holidays**

We are required to continue contact tracing for the first part of the Easter holidays. If your child develops symptoms on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March or Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April and a test shows they are positive, please let us know by calling our welfare line on 07437 794 201 (Larry Davis) or 07379 862 150 (Sara Sharpe). This will enable us to trace other students with whom your child has had close contact.

### **Contact tracing Next Term**

We are required to trace the contacts of anyone who has tested positive within the Academy community. Those identified will be required to self-isolate for 10 days after the period of contact. Whilst the Academy is open we are unable to run a parallel virtual school, however work will continue to be set on Google Classrooms and teachers will share their lesson resources on these platforms for students to access. Further information about contact tracing can be found here <a href="https://bit.ly/3dosL50">https://bit.ly/3dosL50</a>

### Lateral Flow Testing at Home

The Local Authority has asked me to pass on the following regarding testing, which is key to keeping our community safe and the Academy open:

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme on the return to school, it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term.

- test twice a week at home from now on (all those who are able to)
- report results <u>online</u> as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping us to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country
- continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays
- test before returning to school or college for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, the first day back, to find and isolate any positive cases.

Families and households can also access home test kits for adults.

If your child receives a positive result, please do not send them into school but keep them at home to isolate for 10 days, inform us in the usual way and arrange a PCR test. If your child has symptoms, even with a negative Lateral Flow Test, they should self-isolate at home and take a PCR test.

To support you with this process, we will email you twice each week to remind you to test your child.

## A Return to High Standards in Uniform

When we return, the expectation will be that students will be in smart and correct uniform, as detailed below. We understand that it has been difficult to renew uniform while the shops have been closed so we have been flexible about uniform for the past three weeks. With shops reopening soon, please take the opportunity to update your child's uniform, if required, before they return to school after the Easter break. Our uniform expectations can be found in our uniform guide <a href="https://parents.southfieldsacademy.com/page/?title=Uniform&pid=39">https://parents.southfieldsacademy.com/page/?title=Uniform&pid=39</a>

If you need to purchase uniform items, there is information on the website uniform page on how to do this. Please note our supplier will be increasing prices from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Other items will be available to purchase elsewhere once shops re-open from 12<sup>th</sup> April.

National Teaching School designated by

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## Uniform Expectations

## Year 7-11

- White collared shirt with Southfields Academy tie (Year 7, 8 & 9 royal blue and gold tie, Year 10 black and gold tie, Year 11 gold tie)
- Black Southfields Academy blazer
- Black Academy jumper optional
- Black trousers, skirt or knee length shorts
- Plain black coat no logos, emblems or markings
- Plain dark blue, black or white headscarves may be worn, for religious purposes
- All students must wear plain black shoes no trainers are allowed.
- Socks & tights must be plain black or white only.

# Sixth Form

## Students must wear:

- Formal suit trousers, a skirt or dress in plain black, navy blue or grey (checks and pinstripes are allowed). Skirts and dresses should be modest in length and style (no figure-hugging lycra, leather-like material, or bare shoulders)
- A formal shirt or plain polo shirt with a collar in the student's choice of colour
- Plain dark blue, black or white headscarves may be worn, for religious purposes
- Formal black, brown or navy shoes (you must be able to polish them)
- Plain tights or socks.

The dress code is based on the principles of a professional workplace.

## Students may also wear:

- A suit jacket in black, navy blue or grey
- A tie in any colour
- A plain belt which ensures trousers are worn appropriately
- A plain knitted jumper or cardigan in black, navy blue or grey. Students are permitted to wear polo neck or crew neck jumpers (not zip or button neck) without a shirt collar.
- A plain black, blue or navy coat
- A plain knitted scarf may be worn outside during winter
- Formal black, blue or brown ankle or knee length boots (which can be polished) as an alternative to shoes. Students are advised to check with a senior teacher in the sixth form before wearing boots.

Students who arrive at school inappropriately dressed will be required to return home to change.

## Students may NOT wear:

- Any headwear outdoors or indoors including baseball caps, bandanas or durags
- Trainers, casual or canvas footwear
- Leggings or jeggings
- Tracksuit and jogging bottoms or casual trousers
- Leather, faux leather or denim jackets
- Hoodies, sweatshirts or tracksuit tops



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- Logos (other than those which are small and unobtrusive) on any item of clothing
- Denim in any colour
- T shirts or strappy tops
- Visible underwear
- Excessive jewellery (including large or hoop earrings and visible body or facial piercings)
  - One small pair of studs worn in each lobe is permitted and one ring
  - Extreme hair styles or colours
- Excessive make up, including long false nails
- Tattoos

Students will not be allowed to wear coats in lessons.

The use of phones is not permitted during the school day unless it is for educational purposes under the direction of a teacher in a lesson.

### Upcoming Dates

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Summer 1 term starts for all students
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Year 7 Virtual Parents' Evening
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	INSET for staff (Academy closed to students)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	International Group Virtual Parents' Evening
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Year 8 Virtual Parents' Evening
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Half term break
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	INSET for staff (Academy closed to students)

We await further information regarding the dates our Year 11 and Year 13 students will finish in the summer term and will advise parents of this when this is received.

May I take this opportunity to thank you again for your support throughout this term and I wish you and your family a safe, relaxing and refreshing Easter break.

Yours sincerely

Wanda Golinska Headteacher

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