

Friday, 28th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Another busy week at TCA, and another week where numbers of students and staff self-isolating are high. However, I am very proud of the approach that everyone is taking to making sure that we stay calm and purposeful in difficult circumstances. Staff are working phenomenally hard to make things as normal as possible, and students' behaviour, engagement and conduct has been excellent.

Attendance

Non-COVID-19 absence has been low this week, and without COVID-19, attendance would have been around 96%. Please do ensure that, wherever possible, your child is attending every day, and that appointments are booked around the Academy day as opposed to during it.

Face coverings

As of yesterday (Thursday), face coverings were no longer required to be worn anywhere in TCA. Should students wish to, this is absolutely fine.

Catch-up work

To reiterate, when students are self-isolating, please ensure that they are accessing work wherever possible. All lesson work is uploaded to Teams, and live lessons are available for all. If you are struggling to connect owing to technology or other reasons, please do get in touch. If your child returns having not completed any work, they will be given every opportunity to catch up with missed work.

Sufyaan P – a year 7 legend!

A huge thank you to Sufyaan P in year 7 who found a significant amount of money on the Maths corridor on Wednesday afternoon. He handed it straight in to Mrs Meldrum without any fuss or messing about, and we are grateful for his honesty, integrity, for being nice and working hard.

Kelsey S – a year 9 hero!

Kelsey has selflessly donated her locks to the Little Princess Trust, a charity that produces real hair wigs for children who have lost own hair through cancer treatment. A lovely, kind, gesture, well done Kelsey!



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Second vaccinations – consent forms

Should you wish for your child to have their second COVID-19 vaccination on site, please ensure that you return the form which was sent home last Friday. If your child has not had their first vaccination yet and you wish for them to receive this, please also fill the consent form in. Vaccinations are being administered and managed by Medicare, and all medical updates will be passed to GPs automatically.

Uniform

Uniform has been excellent this week following our push on standards. There are still one or two issues with skirts which are too short, so please be reminded that you should consult the images in the Student Planner for an appropriate length of skirt. Should you need help with items of uniform, visit <https://www.uniform-exchange.org/>, an amazing charity who provide free uniform to families in the local area.

Year 9 options

The Year 9 options process started this week. Students have had guidance assemblies, and options booklets have been distributed. On Friday, the year group experienced taster sessions in some of the subjects on offer, and all subjects, this week, took some lesson time to focus on what is on offer in their subjects at KS4. Parents and carers can find all information on the Academy website under News and Events, in 'Options 2022'. Over the next few weeks, every student will have a meeting with a member of SLT to discuss their option choices.

I wish you a pleasant and restful weekend, and a couple of days of winter sunshine in amongst the January greyness. It's odd to think that in a few weeks' time we'll be at the halfway point in the year – time really does fly!

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Burton
Headteacher

