



Atlantic Academy Portland

an Aspirations Academy

Miss Heppell - Principal of Primary
Mrs Bishop - Principal of Secondary

Maritime House
Southwell Business Park
Portland, Dorset. DT5 2NA

Tel: 01305 820262
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www.atlantic-aspirations.org

1st March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

We are really excited that we will be able to welcome all of our students back to Atlantic on **Monday 8th March 2021**. I would also like to thank you for the excellent response we have had, in providing consents for your children to take part in the programme of lateral flow testing over the coming weeks. This is really encouraging that we are all in support of the testing and want to get back into a routine of regular school attendance as soon as possible.

Monday 1st March - Friday 5th March - Week A

- Whole school Lateral flow **Testing Programme** :
 - The students must bring a **face mask** to be worn in the indoor areas. They will be asked to remove this briefly during the test
 - The students do **need to wear** their school **uniform** so we can check they are ready for the 8th March and follow up with phone calls home if needed
 - The students must **only arrive** for the **session** they have been **allocated** in order that we **can keep to time**
 - Siblings can attend the same session
 - In the event of any poor weather, or an overrun of the session before, we will be opening the indoor spaces should they be required as waiting areas
 - Parents/Carers are not permitted into the building, but are welcome to wait in their cars in the school car park
 - If students **have any cough or cold symptoms** they should **not attend the site** and please call notify the school office
 - We know that some students may be anxious about taking the tests, but we can assure you that our team of school-based trained helpers will be on hand to help and support them through the process, as well as their tutor
 - By doing these tests in the week before students return to school, we have built in the time to ensure this process can be handled sensitively
- Remote **Careers Week** will take place please see DMB and tutor time classrooms this week for further details
- Remote learning - scheduled live lessons will be at the discretion of the teacher this week due to Tutors being in school to support and reassure students in their tutor groups with the testing programme, as well as making sure they are ready for the return to school
- Live Tutor time will still happen where possible
- Year 9 **Options** window **closes Friday 5th March**

Mrs Bourke - Maternity Leave

This week Mrs Bourke starts her maternity leave. I am sure you will all join me in wishing her joy and happiness as she starts this new chapter in her life

Monday 8th March - Friday 12th March - Week B

- All students return to school - see further details below



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- Normal timetable resumes please check **SIMS Parent** and **SIMS Student App** for **current timetable** - if you have issues downloading the app please contact abiddle@atlantic-aspirations.org for support.
- **If students have PE on Monday 8th March** then they are expected in **PE Kit with Blazer**
- Final testing will continue during lesson time and more information about home testing will be shared
- **Science Week**
- Completion of subject content and revision to prepare for the **PPE fortnight Monday 15th March - 27th March**

Staggered Start/End Timings of the day:

For Year **7, 8 and 9** students, the school day will be from **8:30am** until **2:45pm**. Detentions will run from 2:45pm until 3:15pm.

For Year **10 and 11** students, the school day will be from **8:40am** until **3:00pm**. Detentions will run from 3:00pm until 3:30pm.

Uniform

Students are to be in full school uniform in line with the [Uniform Policy](#) (Jumpers are compulsory until Easter and then optional; Black socks with trousers and black tights with skirts). Please ensure all **hair styles are appropriate** and are **natural hair colours**. Also, please remember that nose studs are not part of our uniform policy; removal of nose studs en route or on site presents an increased risk of spreading the virus.

On days that students have PE or Dance, they need to come into school wearing their **PE kit with their blazer** over top; they will remain in their PE kit for the duration of the day. Again, a gentle reminder that **hoodies are not part** of our uniform policy. However, students can wear a PE sweatshirt which needs to be a black, plain, long sleeved, full zip fleece/jumper which can be purchased from any retailer. Alternatively, you may wish to purchase a logoed sweatshirt from [Brigade](#).

Bubbles and Zones

We will continue to teach students in year bubbles, **keeping students apart from other groups where possible** and encouraging them to keep their distance within groups. **Staff can work across different year groups in order to deliver the school timetable**, but they will keep their distance from students and other staff as much as they can (ideally 2 metres apart).

Hot Food

Reminder, hot food will be available at AM and PM break times. Please make sure that you top up your sQuid account online to purchase food. If you are entitled to FSM this only covers PM break food and therefore if you would like to purchase at AM break please top up your sQuid account.

I would encourage you to make contact with your child's Tutor or Head of Year, [via the pastoral contact form on the website](#), if there is something specific that you would like to discuss.

We have light at the end of the tunnel but still have a small part of the journey to travel. I want to reassure all those in our community that Atlantic Academy will continue to provide an excellent education for all of our students whilst also keeping everyone as safe as possible.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Bishop Principal of Secondary