



Atlantic Academy Portland

an Aspirations Academy

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

Maritime House
Southwell Business Park
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www.atlantic-aspirations.org

19th April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

I hope you all managed to enjoy the Easter break and, with that, the longer, brighter evenings. I am writing to you with a few reminders and updates as we embark on the final full term of this academic year.

Our full return of students and staff to school on 8 March was really successful and we are very grateful for your ongoing support of our commitment to minimising COVID risks whilst also promoting as much 'normality' as possible in school. Our thanks also go to the students for the vital part they have played to make this work. As the roadmap begins to unfold over the next few weeks we will look to opening up more facilities around the school.

We are all very pleased to see a gradual opening up of activities and society as the COVID cases continue to fall and the national vaccination programme is rolled out. However, at this critical point, it is vital that we remain vigilant and we continue to do all we can to keep our community safe. It is, therefore, important that you are aware that all of the safety precautions we undertook last term will remain in place for the coming term.

Face coverings

You will recall that, prior to the wider opening of schools on 8 March, the Government published updated guidance as a consequence of the concern around more transmissible variants and the need to implement strong systems of controls to create a safer environment for staff and students. The use of face coverings is one element of the system of controls. The government at that time therefore recommended to schools, that:

At the time, the Government made a commitment to review this guidance at Easter. This has now happened and, on 6 April, they have updated the guidance to say that face coverings **should continue to be worn** "in classrooms or during activities unless social distancing can be maintained". This position will be reviewed by the government and will remain in place until at least **17 May 2021**. We ask that students continue to be mindful and respectful of the genuine anxieties of staff and other students and do all they can to ensure the safety of others.

Symptoms of COVID-19

Please can I remind you that it is **essential** that any student who is displaying any of the COVID-19 symptoms (new continuous cough or a high temperature, or a change/loss of taste or smell), or has tested positive in the last 10 days should not attend school. If your child is not experiencing symptoms but has tested positive for COVID-19, they must self-isolate for at least 10 days starting from the day the test was taken. If you develop symptoms during this isolation period, you must restart your 10-day isolation from the day you develop symptoms. Please remember to **report a Positive Covid Test Result to the school** [via our website](#) . This is confidential and only seen by myself and Miss Heppell.

It is essential that we have up-to-date **contact details** for parents/carers in case a student needs to be collected from school - it is vital that we are able to make immediate contact so that the student can be collected straightaway. Please email all new contact details to abiddle@atlantic-aspirations.org or notify us through the SIMS Parent app.



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Year 7 to 10 Reports

Unit 2 reports for Years 7 to 10 will be published on the SIMS Parent and Student apps on Thursday 22nd April. These reports will only be available on the SIMS app and students will not be given paper copies of the reports. Please ensure you have signed up for the SIMS app so you are able to access these reports. Please contact Miss Biddle, abiddle@atlantic-aspirations.org, if you have any questions regarding the SIMS Parent or Student App.

Operation Encompass

We have been given the opportunity to take part in a project that will run jointly between schools and Dorset Police. Operation Encompass is the notification to schools from the police when a child or young person has experienced any domestic abuse. Operation Encompass will ensure that senior safeguarding members of the school staff, known as key adults, are trained to allow them to receive information from the police and to use the information shared in confidence whilst ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children and/or their families who have been involved in a domestic abuse incident.

Cancelled INSET (non-student day) Day - Friday 25th June

Due to the amount of time that students have lost in school this year, all of the schools in our Trust have cancelled what would have been a non-student day on Friday 25th June to prioritise them being in school. I am sure they will be pleased!

Term Dates 2021-22 for your diary

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|--------------------------|--|
| Autumn Term : | Friday 3rd September 2021 Year 7 Monday 6th September 2021 Whole school |
| Half term: | Monday October 25th - Friday 29th October |
| Christmas Break : | Monday 20th December 2021- Tuesday January 4th 2022 (students back in on Wednesday) |
| Half term: | Monday 21st February 2022 - Friday 25th February 2022 |
| Easter Break : | Monday 11th April 2022 - Monday 25th April 2022 (students back in on Tuesday) |
| Half term: | Monday 30th May 2022 - Friday 3rd June 2022 |
| Summer Break: | Monday 25th July 2022 - Monday 5th September 2022 |

Inset (staff training) dates for Diary 2021-22

- **Inset 1: Thursday 2nd September 2021**
- **Friday 3rd September 2021** Only Year 7 in school to support transition
- **Monday 6th 2021** September whole school back
- **Inset 2: Friday 26th November 2021-** Whole Trust CPD
- **Inset 3: Tuesday 4th January 2022**
- **Inset 4: Monday 25th April 2022**
- **Inset 5: Friday 24th June 2022** - Whole trust CPD

We look forward to welcoming all students and staff back to school this week.

Mrs L Bishop Principal of Secondary