

CITY OF DERBY ACADEMY

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Monday 29th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

CODA Easter Updates

I hope that you are all well and staying safe.

As the Easter break is fast approaching, I want to start my letter off by saying how proud I am of the whole community. Not only am I proud of our commitment to reducing the spread of the coronavirus in school, I am also delighted with the dedication and focus of our students in their lessons.

End of Term Arrangements

I would like to confirm that the last day of the spring term is Thursday 1st April 2021. The school will close at the usual time of 14:30.

Home Lateral Flow Tests

Students who have been receiving a lateral flow test in school received their home testing kits last week. There are a number of guidance documents to support this which can be found on the school website <https://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/information/covid-19/>.

We will be providing additional home kits to student's week commencing 29th March 2021 to ensure they have enough tests to continue with the home testing over the Easter period. Testing is a great way of reducing the spread of the coronavirus. The DfE have said:

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme on the return to school and college, it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term. Please pass on this message to all of your staff, students and parents:

- *test twice a week at home from now on (all those who are able to)*
- *report results <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> 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*

I would like as many students as possible to complete home testing. Therefore, if students who have not received lateral flow tests in school and would like to complete home testing, please contact the school and we can arrange for collections of the testing kits.

In addition, families of school children can also apply online to receive their own lateral flow tests. The link is [Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools, nurseries and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-rapid-lateral-flow-tests).

Parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their education setting or by NHS Test and Trace are now able to apply for a <https://www.gov.uk/test-and-trace-support-payment> or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria.

Free School Meals

CODA will continue to provide Free School Meal vouchers to eligible families over the Easter break. If you are eligible, you will receive Sodexo vouchers via email week commencing 29th March 2021.

Red Nose Day

Many thanks to all of the community who supported the last Red Nose Day in school. I am delighted to announce that we raised £772 for the Red Nose charity.

Celebrating Success

There are so many things that happen at CODA which make us proud. Please look out for my weekly Headteacher Blog and the latest newsletter, which will celebrate some of the wonderful achievements at CODA.

Finally, I hope that you all have a fantastic Easter break, and we look forward to seeing your child back in school on Monday 19th April 2021.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Smith
Proud Headteacher