

CITY OF DERBY ACADEMY

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Proud Headteacher: Mr P Smith (BA) Hons NPQH



Monday 18th October 2021

Dear parents/carers

CoDA Updates and Useful Information

It has been another tremendous half term at CoDA. There is a wonderful productive atmosphere in school and I am impressed with the quality of learning that is taking place. In addition, there have been so many wonderful experiences created for our students, which supports our vision of improving the life chances.

I would like to give a special mention to our Open Evening. This was an amazing event and I was incredibly proud of the whole school community. I was delighted to see so many CoDA students who stayed behind to help; being proud to be part of the CoDA community and proud to wear the CoDA uniform. The feedback we have received from the people attending was of the highest calibre. I would like to say well done and thank you.

I am also proud that we have managed to provide good quality education whilst keeping the school community safe. The proportion of the school community that has been affected by a positive COVID-19 result is less than 1%. I believe this is because both students and staff are maintaining their high viralogical etiquette.

As cases rise in the City, I am urging parents/carers and students to continue to follow the safety measures that are in place. These are:

- Regular sanitising
- Moving around school on the left-hand side of corridors
- Wearing face coverings, if they choose
- Wearing face coverings on all public transport and when car sharing

As a school, we are providing:

- Well ventilated spaces
- Increased cleaning around school and classrooms
- Lateral Flow Tests

As a reminder, if your child is experiencing symptoms of the coronavirus they should get a PCR test and not attend school unless the result is negative.

We are reviewing our COVID safety strategies daily and if cases do begin to rise at CoDA we will implement further contingency plans. To support this message I also enclose a letter from Dr Dewis who is the Director of Public Health.

Lateral Flow Testing

Thank you to those who are continuing to complete lateral flow tests. Students will be provided with more tests this week. I would like all parents/carers to encourage their child to test twice per week, including during half term. Lateral flow tests are the most effective strategy to keeping us all safe.

Proud to be part of the **QEGSMAT**

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BEST LIFE**



Free School Meals

Those families who are entitled to free school meals will receive a voucher to redeem during half term. Vouchers are being provided by the local authority and should be with you next week.

INSET day

Friday 22nd October will be an INSET day for staff training. Therefore, student's last day in school is Thursday 21st October. School will reopen after half term on Monday 1st November 2021.

Sully

Following on from our assemblies about Sully, our school dog. I am delighted to say Sully will start to be introduced into our school community in the first week after half term. This is a really exciting time for us all

<https://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/information/welcome-2/>



Uniform

As a reminder, all students should wear black shoes, black trousers or skirt, white shirt along with our branded blazer and tie. We have updated our website, which provides clear guidance on our uniform expectations including our PE uniform. Please follow this link <https://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/parents/uniform/> for more information. You can also find the link to our uniform supplier's website where you have the option to order direct as well as the dates for our in-school pop up shop.

Headteacher's Blog

I write a fortnightly blog where I reward and celebrate a number of the wonderful things that have taken place at CoDA. Please look out for these. They are available on our website <https://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/> and Facebook (@CityOfDerbyAcademy) and Twitter (@CoDA_Sinfin) pages.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school for further information on anything I have mentioned.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Smith'.

Mr P Smith
Proud Headteacher



Derby City Council

Team Public Health
Contact Robyn Dewis
Our ref RD/LR

Date 15 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are still seeing a high number of COVID cases in the City, over 1000 each week. Many of our cases are school aged children, and we are now seeing rising cases in adults and older people. We are also seeing an increase in other infections and expect flu to begin in the next few weeks.

At this point in the pandemic, it is my opinion that, it is time to take extra actions to reduce spread within schools, to reduce the number of children off school and to protect our City.

I have written to Head Teachers with additional actions they can use in their schools, but also need to ask for your help to reduce spread. I hope that by working together we can keep our children in school over the winter.

- Please encourage your child to use the home testing/ lateral flow kits twice a week. These tests are to use regularly when you do not have any symptoms. We ask that they are used by families of school children and secondary school children.
- Please remind your child to wear a face covering if they travel on the bus to school, and wear one yourself if you need to gather with others when you collect your child.
- If your child has COVID symptoms (a new cough, a temperature or loss of taste/smell) please keep them at home and arrange a PCR test.
- If your child has a positive PCR test, please keep your child at home and follow the advice you are given.
- If your child is identified as a contact (either by Test and Trace or by school), please arrange a PCR test- there is no need to isolate if they do not have symptoms, but you are advised to avoid people who are vulnerable.
- However, if someone in your household has COVID we ask that you keep your child/ children at home until they have had a PCR test and received a result. If the test is negative, and your child can, we suggest daily lateral flow testing for a further seven days as they return to school. Please do not take your child to out of school activities during the time you are waiting for your PCR result.

People Services, The Council House, Corporation Street, Derby, DE1 2FS
derby.gov.uk

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- If your child has exams or other important events this term, please consider reducing their out of school contacts in the 10 days before. This will reduce their risk of catching COVID and avoid them missing these important events.

If your child has special educational needs and testing is not possible please discuss this with your school. Any child who has received a positive PCR test does not need to test again, unless they develop new symptoms, for 90 days as they should have a good level of protection against the virus.

Finally, all school children will be offered the flu vaccine over coming weeks, and those over 12 years will be offered the COVID vaccine. Please read the information provided and ask any questions of the School Aged Immunisation Team- Repton Health Centre 01283 707178, DCHST.immunisationteam@nhs.net. The vaccinations are offered separately, and both are very important to help us to keep children well and in school this autumn.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robyn Dewis', written in a cursive style.

Dr Robyn Dewis
Director of Public Health