

# CITY OF DERBY ACADEMY

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Proud Headteacher: Mr P Smith (BA) Hons NPQH



Thursday, 06 January 2022

## RE: Start of Term Updates at CODA

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year. I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. I want to provide you with further details for the start of term, which begins on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2022. I am sure that you are aware that the spread of Covid-19 over the Winter break has resulted in a number of national strategies being implemented. A number of these will be put in place at CODA to keep your child safe. Our vigilance for keeping high expectations of virological etiquette before the winter break was fantastic, and I am confident we will maintain these expectations in the new term.

### Start of term arrangements:

#### Home Lateral Flow Device Tests [LFD]

To support additional safety for the start of term, I would like all students to complete a home LFD Test before they come to school on Monday.

In addition, students have been periodically receiving lateral Flow Device home testing kits. Testing is a great way of reducing the spread of the coronavirus and it is vital to continue with the home testing over the Christmas period. 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>

#### Lateral Flow Device Testing in January 2022

When students return to school on January the 10<sup>th</sup> 2022, we will provide an LFD test on school site. This is to check that students are safe to return to school. These LFD Tests will take place in the school day as per the timetable below. If you DO NOT want your child to have a LFD Test, can you please let the school know as soon as possible.

Year Group	Test date	Time
Year 7	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	09:00 – 11:00
Year 8	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	11:00 – 13:00
Year 9	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	13:00 – 15:00
Year 10	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	09:00 – 11:00
Year 11	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	11:00 – 13:00
Catch Up	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	13:00 – 15:00

#### Face Coverings In School

The Department for Education [DfE] has instructed that all students need to be wearing face coverings in all areas of school, this includes inside classrooms. Therefore, from Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2022, students will be required to wear a face covering everywhere inside the school building. If your child does not have a face covering, we will provide one. Students who are exempt from wearing a face covering will need to be wearing their lanyards. The DfE has said it will review this decision towards the end of January. When I know more details, I will let the community know.

Proud to be part of the QEGSMAT

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### Self-Isolation periods for Positive Covid Tests

Over the last few days, the government has reduced the self-isolation period from 10 days to 7 days. This is on the proviso that a negative Lateral Flow Device test is received on day 6 and day 7. If a Lateral Flow Device test is still showing positive, then the isolation remains as 10 days.

In addition, if anyone receives a positive Lateral Flow Device test result, they are to take this as testing positive for Covid-19 and NOT get a PCR test. They are then to start their self-isolation period from the date of the test.

### Covid-19 Vaccinations

Last term, students between the ages of 12 and 15 were eligible to receive their first Covid vaccination at school through the NHS. This offer will be available again and the date allotted to CODA is 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022. I will write to parents in the near future to provide further details.

### Additional COVID Safety Reminders

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.

I am also urging parents/carers and students to continue to follow the safety measures that are in place.

These are:

- Regular sanitising when moving around the school site
- Moving around school on the left-hand side of corridors
- 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

Finally, we look forward to seeing your child on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 for the start of the new term.

Yours sincerely



**Mr P Smith**  
**Headteacher**