

January 2022

Dear parent / carer

We hope that you have all had a restful Christmas and would like to wish all parents, students, and carers a very Happy New Year. We are looking forward to welcoming the students back into school this week; as you are aware we are following a phased return, with all details regarding the relevant Year Group dates on our School Website under Parental Letters.

Lateral Flow Testing

We will be continuing to ask students to test twice weekly (Sunday and Wednesday) using the Lateral Flow Tests. If students require more tests, we ask that they are collected from reception after school between 3.05 – 4pm.

The result of each test, be that positive, negative or void, needs to be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>, or by calling the telephone number given in the test kit instruction leaflet if you do not have access to the internet.

You will also need to tell the school the result of each test by following the guidance below:

1. *Input the results onto the NHS website as detailed above.*
2. *Complete this link which records your result with the school. <https://forms.office.com/r/saRfHaGaBy>*
3. **If your test result is positive, you will need to:**
 - o **Self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance.**
 - o **Email: attendance@arthurterry.bham.sch.uk**

Please follow the up to date guidance on when to self-isolate by clicking this link <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

Face Coverings in Secondary Classrooms

The Government is temporarily recommending that face coverings are worn in classrooms and teaching spaces for students in year 7 or above, in light of the Omicron variant surge.

The advice is short term only to support pupils and staff as they return to schools this term and builds on the existing guidance that recommends face coverings for all adults in communal areas of all settings.

The advice on face coverings in classrooms will be in place until the 26 January, when Plan B regulations are currently scheduled to expire, at which point it will be reviewed.

Home School Commutation - MCAS

We have recently moved to a new system for messaging parents via the parental App, 'MCAS' (My Child at School). All information has been shared with parents before Christmas, including a guide on how to access and use the App. A copy has been added to the School Website under Parental Letters or please [CLICK HERE](#) to access. (Please note, MCAS will be linked to the email address we currently hold on file). To enable parents to access the MCAS app you will have received an email with your unique login in details. This will include the School ID, your Username, and Invitation Code.

MCAS will be used for all important correspondence we send home (e.g., attendance, important parental updates/ letters, trips etc.). We will be continuing to use GO4Schools for all other correspondence relating to your child's performance in school, school reports and detentions. We strongly encourage all parents to download and use the new app, as we will no longer be sending text messages to parents as this will be replaced by notifications on MCAS.

The app also helps to keep all school correspondence (emails, texts, and announcements) in one place.

Thank you for your continued support whilst we transition to MCAS, if you do have any queries can we ask that you do not call reception, but please email enquiry@arthurterry.bham.sch.uk

Uniform

Our new vision and ethos of Be Proud, Be Kind and Be Ready is now fully implemented into our school and we wanted to remind our students of our high expectations regarding uniform as this is integral to being both 'Proud' and 'Ready'.

Our full uniform list can be found [here](#), with a summary of key points below:

- Official Arthur Terry School skirts are the only skirts permitted and these must not be rolled up.
- Year 11 must wear their jumpers at all times, and Y7-10 must also always wear their blazers and not have their sleeves rolled up.
- As the weather turns colder, students may opt to wear the logo-ed Arthur Terry black jumper under their blazer, but no other jumpers or cardigans are allowed. We also encourage students to wear an appropriate waterproof and warm coat (hoodies are not permitted.)
- Students are allowed one stud per ear. No other jewellery apart from a wristwatch is allowed. No facial piercings whatsoever. Excessive make-up is not allowed.
- School ties are available to buy from Clive Marks, should they be lost. Unfortunately, we do not have a supply for students to borrow. We recommend labelling all items of school uniform, as this enables us to return items to the students should they lose them.
- Shoes must be plain black with a black sole, in polishable leather or leather type shoe. Excessively high heels, sandals with no backs and wedges are dangerous and will not be allowed.
- If hair is dyed, it should be of a natural colour.

Please can we also remind Parents/Carers that mobiles phones are not allowed to be seen or heard anywhere on the school site. All mobile phones should be kept turned off in a student's bag. If a student's mobile phone is seen or heard it will be confiscated and a Phase 3 will be given. The mobile phone can only be collected by a Parent/Carer.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents for their ongoing support during the current situation.

Yours faithfully

The Arthur Terry Leadership Group