



9th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds our families safe and well.

5* learning at Yewlands Academy

I am pleased to write that the start to our year continues to be extremely positive. Students are demonstrating the 5* behaviours that we expect of them and I am extremely proud of their learning. Myself and staff continue to commit ourselves to safely recovering and increasing the learning of all our students after their unprecedented time away from the school building.

Face masks

Please could all parents/carers support the Academy in ensuring that their child brings a face mask to the Academy every day. We continue to ask all students and staff to wear face masks when moving round the Academy, including on corridors and in communal areas so it is essential that students provide their own.

Coats – poor weather

The Academy continues to follow all government guidance around Covid-19 and implements routines to support this. As the weather becomes colder, we ask that all students bring a coat to the Academy as their break and lunchtimes are outside. Please note that students will not have break or lunchtimes outside in poor weather.

Yewlands in the community

As part of our Yew Futures 'Opportunities and Aspirations' Programme we encourage our students to be a good neighbour in their local community through activities such as volunteering and supporting local organisations. We launched this last week with a group of Y7 students who completed the first calendared litter pick in the local community. This week we are rolling out a number of projects with our local care homes, starting with our Y10 students writing 'uplifting' letters to residents.

Period 4 on Tuesday 13th October

Due to a whole Academy staff training event, there will be no period 4 for Y11 students on Tuesday 13th October. This also means that the Science intervention for Y7-10 will not run on this day.

Supported study

To support our students the Academy will provide a supervised workspace from 3-4pm, Monday-Thursday for those students who wish to complete their homework at school (this includes access to appropriate technologies). If students want to access this resource, they need to meet in the canteen at the end of the school day where they will be collected and escorted to the supported study session.

Parent/carer parking

With the safety of our students in mind, please ensure that your child enters and leaves the Academy via the student entrance their year group bubble has been allocated. Parents/carers are requested to only use the main car park if they have a pre-arranged appointment or have made prior arrangements with the Academy to drop off or collect their child at main reception. If your child cycles to school, please speak to them about road safety when leaving the Academy premises.

To ensure we keep everyone safe around the school gates, please do not:

- Block the road – emergency vehicles and other traffic may need access
- Park on yellow lines or block the entrance to the Academy
- Park on the pavement, across dropped kerbs or residents' driveways
- Park where you will cause inconvenience to other road users
- Stop in the middle of the road to drop off or pick up your child, even for a few seconds

Thank you for your support on this.

Y5/Y6 Virtual Open Evening

The current circumstances meant that our Y5 and Y6 open evening was a virtual offer this year. As much as we love opening the Academy and showcasing all of the amazing work that goes on, we were unable to do this. Instead we put together a video which shows families the fantastic opportunities that will be available to their children should they choose Yewlands Academy. The video has been shared on our website, YouTube and Twitter pages, and can be found here <https://youtu.be/9Rf0icTqCQQ>

Y10 and Y11 Parents' Evenings

Due to our recent Y7 – Y11 student well-being calls by Tutors, the Y10 and Y11 Parents' Evenings scheduled for 22nd October and 26th November will now take place during the week commencing 14th December. These will be a remote offer due to the current circumstances. More information will be sent out nearer the time.

Y11 Post 16

Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions we are unable to offer a face to face Post 16 evening. However, all Y11 students are being offered an impartial career interview this term and work will be done in the Academy with their form tutors to support college, sixth form and apprenticeship applications. In the next couple of weeks, a pack of information will be sent home offering guidance on what students' options are Post 16. For information regarding virtual open evenings, please see our posts on Twitter and Facebook.

Yewlands Academy Facebook

Yewlands Academy now has a Facebook page. This is a fantastic way for the Academy to keep parents/carers up to date with what we are doing and communicate any urgent information.

Coronavirus absence

Finally, please see the helpful guide from Sheffield City Council at the end of this letter which outlines the different isolation scenarios and action required as a result.

Thank you for the many messages of support I have again received from parents/carers; these are always much appreciated. Myself and the staff at Yewlands Academy fully appreciate the importance of your child's education and are committed to delivering the best for them regardless of the circumstances that we all find ourselves in.

Yours sincerely



Mr Andrew Kelly
Principal

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 ... my child has Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child must not go to school Child must get a test Everyone who lives in the house must self-isolate* until you get the test result Tell the school immediately about test result 	... If child's test is negative and when they have been symptom free for 48 hours
 ... my child tests positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child must not go to school Child must self-isolate* for at least 10 days from when symptoms** started (or from day of test if no symptoms) Tell the school immediately about test result Whole household must self-isolate* for 14 days from start of symptoms (or from day of test if no symptoms) – even if someone tests negative during those 14 days 	<p>... when child feels better and has not had a fever for at least 48 hours</p> <p>They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone</p>
 ... my child is sent home because they are in a bubble that the school has closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child must not go to school Child must self-isolate* for 14 days - even if they test negative during those 14 days Everyone else who lives in the house does not need to isolate, unless they have been identified as a close contact of someone with a positive result 	... when the school says it is OK for them to return, usually when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days
 ... a person who I live with has Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child / children must not attend school The person with symptoms must get a test Everyone who lives in the house must self-isolate* until they get their result Tell the school immediately about test result 	... if the person's test is negative and if the child does not have any symptoms**
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*When a person is self-isolating they must not leave the house for any reason (unless they are going for a Coronavirus test) and must not have visitors in their home.

If you need any advice or support, including help with shopping, you can call the Council's Coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline on 0114 27 34567.

For urgent medical advice call 111.

**Symptoms include at least one of the following: a high temperature, a new continuous cough, a loss or change in taste/smell.



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