



PARENT BULLETIN

FRIDAY 26TH MARCH 2021

Standards and Expectations

As we approach the Easter holidays and following a period of grace as students have returned to school, this seems an appropriate time to revisit our standards and expectations as we move into the summer term and begin to return to some kind of normality.

We appreciate that school uniform has been more difficult to purchase during the lockdown period and that many students have demonstrated their individuality with regards to haircuts and colour. I would appreciate that parents assist students in addressing issues regarding uniform and appearance over the Easter period so they can return to school ready to learn and following our uniform guidelines.

It is still the case that when a student has PE they can attend school in their PE kit, however, if not they should be wearing full uniform as outlined in our uniform policy, please also note the rules around appropriate jewellery and skirt length.

During the winter we relaxed our rules around wearing jumpers or sweatshirts, acknowledging the difficulties around keeping warm with greater ventilation in classrooms, but after Easter we will return to our normal rules, these are attached to this bulletin.

In addition, a reminder that mobile phones must be switched off and in school bags whilst on school site at all times. If a student needs to contact home, this must be done via the Student Office. Phones will be confiscated if this rule is broken and we appreciate parents/carers support with this.

Any issues or concerns please contact your child's Mini-School for support.

While the vast majority of our students have returned brilliantly, a small number have returned and found it difficult to readjust to the rules and expectations in school. Where this comes from a place of genuine anxiety, we will be increasing the amount of mental health and emotional support we can offer, but we will not tolerate poor behaviour and will expect our students to meet our standards.

Year 11 Parents' Evening

Year 11 Parents' Evening will be held on Wednesday 31st March, via video link, from 3.30pm to 7.00pm. We very much hope that you will be able to attend the video appointments to discuss your child's progress with their teachers and ask that you ensure your child attends with you. This will be prior to their formal assessment after Easter but please understand that teachers will not be able to discuss Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) in the meeting. If you have been unable to book an appointment with a teacher, please get in touch and we can arrange a call back.

Year 7 Parent's Evening

Year 7 Parents' Evening will be taking place virtually on Monday 19th April (Y/W Side) and Thursday 22nd April (X Side) via SchoolCloud. Parents will be sent information shortly on how to book appointments. If you have any queries please contact ldommett@marshacademy.org.uk. Parents' Evenings are an important part of our commitment to working with you to support your child's progress so we hope you can make it.

Years 11 and 13 Formal Assessment Window

The Formal Assessment Window for Years 11 and 13 will start on Monday 19th April and run until Friday 7th May. Please find a copy of the timetable attached. All students will be provided with copies of their individual timetables and these will be shared with parents and carers electronically, students must bring the paper copy of the timetable with them to all examinations.

Students are reminded that full attendance and excellent punctuality is crucial during this assessment window. We would advise all parents and carers to book any medical/dental appointments for students outside of school hours, where possible.





Year 11 Revision

Please see below the Year 11 End of Day Revision Timetable for next week. Revision will not run on Wednesday and Thursday due to Year 11 Parents' Evening and the last day of term.

Mon	Tues
History / French (3:15-4pm)	Science (3:15-4pm)

COVID Testing

Home testing is now underway, and students have been given enough tests for the remainder of the term to test on a Sunday and Wednesday where possible. We will be delivering another home testing kit before students break up for the Easter holidays. We have been asked to request that students continue to test during the Easter holidays and certainly on the Sunday before returning. **Please ensure you report your child's result to the NHS** (information on how to do this is on Page 15 in the instructions booklet). If your child's test reads positive please inform us via the absence line or info@marshacademy.org.uk immediately. In the case of a positive test you must isolate and book a PCR test and send us your result. If your test indicates it is void, please carry out another test and if it still shows void let us know. Negative test results should be reported to us using the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHeWOGk9F0heVadYWDRjzyJHtdXN85wNI1_iLKrWhrtf3sfA/viewform?usp=sf_link

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you for your continued support.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 31st March 2021 – Year 11 Parents' Evening

Thursday 1st April – Last day of term - Non-uniform day

Monday 19th April 2021 – First day of term 5

WEEK A/B 2020/2021	
Week Beginning Monday 29 th March 2021	Week A
Week Beginning Monday 19 th April 2021	Week B
Week beginning Monday 26 th April 2021	Week A

Online Safety

Sometimes, innocent searches can lead to not so innocent results. And sometimes, children may look for things because they are curious. It is important to know how to reassure young people and help them know what to do and where to go for support if they see inappropriate content online.

If your child has seen inappropriate content online, you can:

- talk with them about what they've seen – let them know what is, and isn't, appropriate for their age.
- reassure them they can come to you, another trusted adult or Childline if they're worried about something.
- get advice on setting up parental controls.
- avoid 'sharenting' or sharing explicit or inappropriate content you've seen online to raise awareness. Sharing content of physical or sexual abuse is illegal and can be upsetting to the child and others who come across it.
- report any inappropriate, illegal, explicit, identifying or distressing content to CEOP through their website.
- block any distressing, inappropriate or upsetting content on social media websites. You can learn how to do this through Net Aware, in partnership with O2.

Also attached, published by Kent and Medway Prevent Education Officers, is a Parent's guide to protecting your children from online hate, extremism, and fake news.



NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE

You may have heard of National Citizen Service (NCS) before, either from your teen or from social media, some of you may have teens that have already signed up! Due to COVID-19, last year was a little different, but this year we are hoping to offer the same awesome programme we have always offered!

This is your teens chance to get back out into the world with their mates, get some new skills, make even more friends AND make a difference by getting their communities back on their feet.

We are following all Government guidelines with regards to COVID 19 to ensure that the programme is safe for all.

This year's NCS summer will either be a 2 or 3 week programme, giving your teen the chance to gain independence, get out of the house and stay away from home (Only on the three week programme). Which, let's face it is much needed!

What are the benefits:

- It's only £50 for the entire programme, including transport and food for the first 2 phases (bursaries are available – please speak to Miss Cavanagh if you require financial support)
- NCS enhances their CV's
- NCS enhances their college applications
- NCS is recognised by UCAS and will benefit their personal statements
- NCS improves confidence and offers skills essential for starting work
- Your teen can gain brand new skills and become more independent
- NCS allows your teen to volunteer to help worthy causes
- Allows them the chance to stay away from home

It's an exciting opportunity and not one to be missed. They can only do it whilst they are 16 or 17, so if they're looking for a new challenge or a chance to get out of the house and make a difference, visit wearencs.com and register today, places are limited.

For more information watch our video here:

[Parent Video](#)

Or join one of the live Q&A Zoom meetings:

[Apr 7, 2021 06:00 PM London](#)

<https://zoom.us/j/97433160568?pwd=OC8rNkxNTFYvYnM3NUdvaU82NmIXdz09>

Meeting ID: 974 3316 0568

Passcode: 993406

[Apr 14, 2021 06:00 PM London](#)

<https://zoom.us/j/97294767020?pwd=NmxlUk1yWUQrZHd5T0ppMHllQnBmUT09>

Meeting ID: 972 9476 7020 Passcode: 951728