



PARENT BULLETIN

FRIDAY 2ND APRIL 2021

Message from the Principal

Well done to everyone for getting to the end of term, it has been short, but certainly felt exhausting so you all deserve a restful Easter break.

When we return after Easter, we will be enforcing our normal school uniform policy, except full PE kit should still be worn on PE/Dance days. Although our uniform policy did not really change, by relaxing rules on sweatshirts and jumpers during the winter, alongside PE kit being worn on some days, it has been very difficult to maintain a high standard of appearance, so we have been more relaxed than normal. After Easter we expect all students to come to school dressed in immaculate school uniform, smartly dressed and ready for the new term. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

During this term, the vast majority of students have returned from lockdown and settled back into school well. However, we have had a very significant increase in mental health issues among our students and their families. We have invested in more support for these students that will start after Easter, so please do talk to us if you are at all concerned.

For a small number of students (and their families) this is contributing to an unusually high level of conflict outside of school and in our community, at times spilling into school. We are also finding that some issues with students and their parents are escalating very quickly. I hope you all manage to find some time over Easter to get some much needed relaxation and can come back refreshed. If you can, take some time to talk to your children about how they are feeling and give them the opportunity to get things off their chest. It has been difficult enough to cope with the last year as adults and sometimes our students just need a safe space to talk about how they are feeling. Hopefully we can then all come back after Easter feeling better and a little more patient with one another.

Take care and Happy Easter.

Shaun Simmons. Principal.

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 and carers should have received an email with details on how to book and login to their appointments. If you have not received this information please contact ldommett@marshacademy.org.uk.

The booking system will close on Monday 12th April. 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.

COVID Testing

Home testing should continue over the Easter holidays, and students have been given enough tests to test on a Sunday and Wednesday where possible. **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) and inform us via info@marshacademy.org.uk immediately if the test result is positive so that we can effectively track and trace direct contacts.

Students who have a positive Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test result must now take a confirmatory PCR test, but their close contacts and other members of their household must self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance while awaiting the PCR result. If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the LFD test result and the student can return to school or college, and their close contacts can end their self-isolation. 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.

Year 9 GCSE Options

Now that you have received your child's confirmation letter regarding their GCSE Option Choices for Year 10, please review it carefully and make contact with us if you have any concerns/queries.



Years 11 and 13 Formal Assessment Window

A reminder that 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 have been provided with copies of their individual timetables and these have been 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.

It is crucial that students arrive for their Formal Assessments fully equipped with the following:

Two pens, Pencil, Rubber, Ruler, Sharpener, Calculator (Scientific), Protractor, Pair of Compasses

Whilst it is important for students to revise during the Easter break and prepare for their Formal Assessments, we would also encourage them to take good care of themselves both physically and mentally by eating well, getting lots of rest, adequate sleep and exercise. It is important that students return to us in Term 5 refreshed and ready to work hard throughout the final weeks of their KS4/KS5 study.

Year 11 Revision

Please see below the Year 11 End of Day Revision Timetable for the initial weeks of Term 5. Whilst we encourage all students to attend as content being covered will prepare them for their Assessments, we appreciate that during the Formal Assessment Window some students may wish to complete their revision independently at home. All sessions 3:15pm-4:00pm.

Monday: History, French
 Tuesday: Science
 Wednesday: Maths
 Thursday: Business, Computer Science
 Friday: No after school revision

Includes Us 2 – “Zoom Time” Groups

Due to the current need for increased social distancing measures, des Us 2 will be offering a series of “Zoom Time” support groups over the next few months instead of our usual face to face meetings. “Zoom Time” provides a relaxed and informal space for parents & carers of children with a disability or a special educational need to get together “virtually” and access information and support. Speakers are regularly invited to these sessions to provide information and advice about specialist services. Details of the meetings are attached.

Equipment

Coming to lessons fully equipped and ready to learn will enable students to engage fully in their learning when they return after Easter. This also helps them develop their organisation skills and maximise learning time in the classroom.

Please support us by ensuring your child continues to come to the Academy with the following items:

- Pencil case
- A schoolbag
- 2x black/ blue pens
- 2x pencils
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Red Pen
- Scientific calculator
- Glue stick
- Safety scissors
- Water bottle
- Protractor
- Pair of Compasses
- Highlighter(s)
- A reading book (Y7&8)

If you require support with providing this equipment, please get in touch.

Diary Dates

Monday 19th April 2021 – First day of Term 5

WEEK A/B 2020/2021	
Week Beginning Monday 19 th April 2021	Week B
Week beginning Monday 26 th April 2021	Week A
Week Beginning Tuesday 4 th May 2021	Week B
Week Beginning Monday 10 th May 2021	Week A