



Ark Elvin Academy

03 January 2022

Dear parents and carers,

I do hope you are well and have had some rest over the holiday period. Whilst the national news about covid remains a concern for us all we are pleased to see that the impact of the vaccination and booster programme is positive, and we are all hoping that we can move ahead with our plans for a great Spring Term 2022.

Return to school arrangements

In line with government guidance all pupils in Years 7-11 have been invited into school on Thursday 6th January 2022 to carry out a lateral flow test in our on-site testing centre. Our 6th form pupils will be completing their tests at 09:00am on Friday 7th January 2022. Please [click here](#) if you **DO NOT** wish for your child to be tested in school.

For pupils in Years 7-10 you will have received two appointment times for Thursday - one for your child to come into school for their lateral flow test and one Microsoft teams meeting for you to meet with your child's form tutor to review their end of term report. These appointment times will be at least 2 hours apart to give your child plenty of time to get to school for their test and to be at home for their parent review day meeting online. It really helps the parent review day meeting if you and your child can join the meeting with your laptop cameras on so that everyone can see each other for the discussion. Your child's school laptop is set up to facilitate this. If you cannot make the meeting time allocated to you then please email parentreviewday@arkelvinacademy.org with a time that works for you.

Our first full day of school for all pupils is Friday 7th January 2022.

Updated government guidance

Masks in schools

As many of you will have heard, the government announced this weekend that all pupils should wear a mask in school inside classrooms and in communal areas such as corridors and our assembly hall. Please make sure your child has a mask with them as part of their school equipment every day. They will be able to remove the masks if

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they chose during breaktime and lunch time when they are outside in the courtyard but will be required to wear their masks from line up and throughout lessons unless they are exempt. If you believe your child should be exempt from wearing a mask, fill in [this form](#).

Changes to self-isolation period

The government also announced this week that the period of self-isolation for children and adults who test positive following a PCR test can be reduced to 7 days if they no longer have a temperature and if they test negative on a LFT at home on day 6 and day 7. This will mean that children can return to school on day 8 and reduce the number of lessons they miss. If your child does test positive this term but their symptoms are mild or non-existent then they can access their lessons online during their period of isolation.

Second vaccinations for 12-15 year olds and boosters for young people over the age of 16

Parents can now book their children for their second Covid vaccination directly through the NHS website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>.

If you have any questions about our return to school arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly.

Kind regards,

Ms Curtis
Principal

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