



Eastbank Academy
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Head Teacher
Jonathan Graham

4 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

NEW TERM: SPRING 2022

Firstly, let me start by wishing you all a very happy new year. I hope that everyone managed to have a well-earned rest and spend some time with friends and family. As we prepare for the return of staff and pupils to school tomorrow, I write with some helpful updates.

COVID Issues

You will be aware that cases have risen markedly across the country in recent weeks. It is crucial that we all do everything we can to keep us all safe, and to slow the spread of the virus. Our existing risk assessment will still serve us well, and remains in place. A summary of this can be found on the reverse of the letter, and I'd be grateful if you could talk through this with your child at home and encourage them to be aware of it operate within it. Two specific features of the risk assessment are highlighted below.

Facemasks

These should be worn by all members of the school community whilst in the building. No one likes wearing them, so please only request an exemption if there is a real clinical need. Please ensure that your child comes to school with a strong, reusable mask and a spare. We have been providing masks to pupils but this is using up a huge amount of our budget.

Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Tests

I encourage everyone to take regular LFD tests at home to ensure that you do not have COVID. These can be collected free of charge from the school office. Anyone with symptoms should book a PCR test.

Uniform

School uniform is very important and I'd like to start 2022 and the new term with very high standards. Please note that tracksuit trousers and leggings are not part of school uniform and should not be worn to school, even if they are black. Details of our uniform requirements can be found [here](#). I'd be grateful for your support in ensuring all pupils come to school appropriately dressed. We will be monitoring this closely this term.

Attendance and punctuality

I understand that some pupils will have no choice but to be absent due to COVID or other reasons. However, it is of crucial importance that pupils maintain as high attendance as possible, and arrive on time for lessons. This includes in the morning, after lunch, and between lessons. Being late for school in the morning, even by a few minutes, results in missed learning and disrupts the learning of others. Let's keep our standards high on this front. We will also be monitoring this closely this term.

iPads

Please ensure that all pupils come to school fully equipped for lessons. This includes all necessary learning materials, jotters and books, pens and pencils, as well as a fully charged iPad and charger.



I look forward to seeing everyone return to for another successful term, and will keep you updated regularly.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher

EASTBANK ACADEMY RISK ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

- Pupils to enter building by designated entry points.
- All classrooms to be well-ventilated to ensure a good circulation of fresh air.
- Pupils and staff to sanitise hands on entry to building and classrooms.
- Desks to be cleaned at the end of each period.
- One-way system to be followed.
- Face-masks to be worn in the building at all times.
- Pupils will be outside at break and lunch unless it is raining.
 - This will be the case even if the weather is cold, so pupils should bring a suitable warm jacket to school.
- Pupils to use designated yards at break to minimise social mixing.
- Everyone to maintain physical distancing as much as possible.
- All members of school community encouraged to undertake regular LFD tests
- No one to attend school if experiencing symptoms that may be due to COVID
- Visitors to school will be kept to a minimum
- Pupils who begin to experience symptoms during school day will be kept isolated until collected by parent or are able to be sent home.

