



NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' ACADEMY

We believe in creating a community empowered with the qualities, skills and qualifications to enter the next phase of life with confidence and ambition.

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4 December 2020

Dear parents and carers

I hope you and your family are staying safe and healthy during this challenging time.

As you will know from our recent correspondence, we took the difficult decision to ask the year 8 and year 10 bubbles to work from home from Monday 30 November 2020. This was mostly due to the large number of staff self-isolating, in line with government guidelines, as a precautionary measure following notifications from the Track and Trace app.

On Monday morning, we were also informed of a significant number of positive Covid-19 cases in the year 9 bubble and made the decision that we needed to ask year 9 pupils to self-isolate up to and including Thursday 10 December.

Unfortunately, due to these ongoing self-isolation measures and associated staff shortages, we are unable to welcome pupils in these year groups back as planned and are now provisionally aiming to reopen all three bubbles (years 8, 9 and 10) on Monday 14 December.

I appreciate this may cause some concern but I want to reassure you that, as an Academy, we take the health, safety and wellbeing of our pupils, staff and the wider school community extremely seriously and we are continuing to work closely with Public Health England to help manage both the Academy's and the wider response to Covid-19.

To ensure as minimal disruption to learning as possible, your child's lessons will continue to follow their normal timetable and will be delivered via Microsoft Teams. Details on how to access these lessons can be found on our website in the [Home Learning Hub](#).

Please do let us know if you do not have access to a laptop/tablet or the internet, and we will support where we can. Additionally, if you are in receipt of free school meals, we will continue to arrange for supermarket vouchers to be emailed to you.

In the meantime, I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the steps that we can all take to reduce the risk of spreading infection. These simple measures are:

If your child, a household member or a member of your support bubble develops any of the following symptoms, we ask that you notify the school immediately and arrange a test by visiting <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by phoning 119.

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia) /Cont'd....

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• We provide a safe, kind, nurturing and inclusive environment. • We enjoy the journey together.



If your child develops any of these symptoms, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>.

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek further advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

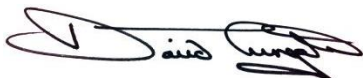
As a community, we can also help reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by:

- washing your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- using hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- washing your hands as soon as you get home
- covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- putting used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

I know these are challenging circumstances for our pupils, staff and the wider school community and would like to thank you for your ongoing support during this time.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy or use the following link to access further information: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

Yours faithfully



David Tungate
Principal

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