



# 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.*

**Principal:** Mr D Tungate  
**Principal:** Mr D Tungate  
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 @NottmGirlsAcad

13 March 2021

## YOU MUST NOT COME TO THE NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' ACADEMY SITE IF...

- You are displaying *any* of the symptoms of Covid-19.
- You have tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 10 days.
- You live in a household with someone who has *any* of the symptoms of Covid-19.
- You live in a household with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 10 days.

Dear parents and carers,

It has been fabulous to welcome children back to school this week and inject some life back into classrooms and corridors.

## Covid Testing

We have conducted over 800 Covid tests on site since Tuesday. All of them, thankfully, negative.

Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils have now had their second test of the three that we will be doing on site. Year 10, 12 and Sixth Form will have their second test on Monday.

From Tuesday, when pupils start to have their third and final tests, they will each be issued with home test kits so they can continue testing at home.

An instruction leaflet comes with the home test kit and the pack contains 7 tests, which should be enough for pupils to continue testing twice a week through to the Easter holiday.

Tests need to be taken 3-5 days apart, so we recommend testing at home on Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

Teachers started home testing this week and it is pretty straight forward, but if you have difficulties please contact your child's pastoral team in the first instance. We will have capacity to offer a small number of tests on site for those that need additional assistance.

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- We strive to fulfil everyone's learning potential. • We value high standards, hard work and a ceaseless desire to improve.
  - We provide a safe, kind, nurturing and inclusive environment. • We enjoy the journey together.



## Learning

Now pupils have returned we need to make every lesson count, to reconnect them with their learning and manage the disruption of the last year

The motto I have spoken to pupils about this week is '**be here, be engaged and behave**'. If all our pupils can follow those three principles while teachers do the hard work of assessing learning and reshaping the curriculum, we will get everyone on track.



**Be here**

There are well established links between good school attendance and successful learning and progress. As you will remember, our aim is for attendance to be better than 97%. Now, more than ever, it is essential that our pupils attend, on time, whenever they possibly can.

However, please continue to follow the advice on Covid symptoms at the top of this letter.

The process of learning requires pupils to actively think and remember. In turn, this requires pupils to concentrate, get involved in activities and discussions, work hard and produce the work that allows them and us to check their understanding. We call this engagement.



**Be engaged**

Being back in classrooms makes these things much easier than when we were online. Pupils can more easily seek help and teachers can more easily assess for misunderstandings or gaps in knowledge. They now need to take advantage of this.



**Behave**

Our pupils have endured enough disruption to their learning over the last year. Hopefully we are nearly at the end of it.

Pupils that don't engage as described above will damage their own chances of learning success. Those that misbehave, will also damage the chances for other pupils in the class. This is unacceptable.

We will always give pupils warnings and a chance to remedy disruptive behaviour, but if it continues pupils will be sanctioned, including by being removed from lessons so others can learn. If it is persistent, we will contact parents for support and to examine how we might help identify and address the root causes.

Our website contains more information about our [behaviour policy](#).

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## Traffic

Unfortunately, I found myself having to end such a positive week on a bit of a negative.

You are all well aware of the challenges with traffic that we have at the end of the school day. Yesterday, I was reminded just how bad it can get. I am sorry if you got caught in all of that.

Some of yesterday's chaotic scenes were as a result of inconsiderate driving and parking: blocking the road rather than allowing space for oncoming traffic to pass, conducting three point turns, stopping in the road to allow children to get in, parking illegally and dangerously (including over local residents driveways).

Once again, please can I ask that you avoid collecting your children if at all possible - they will benefit from the independence of travelling by themselves and the exercise of walking or cycling.

If you must collect your child, then please arrange to do this well away from the main entrances of the school. When you park, please consider other road users' ability to get past easily and safely. And please be considerate of the people that live near to our school.

## Rest

I know lots of our pupils (and all of my staff) were very tired by the end of school yesterday. It will take a little while to adjust to the demands and pace of school life again.

I therefore hope that you can all enjoy a restful and relaxing weekend.

Yours faithfully,



David Tungate  
**Principal**  
**Nottingham Girls' Academy**

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