

12 October 2021

TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS

Dear Parent/Carer

We are very much looking forward to our Extension Activity Drop Down Day tomorrow and the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition which is taking place this week. It has been a busy half-term and I wish to publicly thank our amazing staff who have put on so many induction and extension activities for our learners to enjoy. The response to the voluntary extension activities has been tremendous and I thank parents/carers for their support.

JCB are about to launch a number of apprenticeship programmes and their Apprenticeship Recruitment Team will be coming into The JCB Academy this Friday to speak with our Y11 and Y13 learners about the application process before it goes live. There will be presentations from apprentices and graduates who will talk about their journey and what to expect. Our learners will have lots of opportunity to ask questions.

Online booking is now live on The JCB Academy Sixth Form website, with many places already booked. Y11 learners will hear about life in the sixth form, the amazing destinations that learners go onto and the exciting new courses that we have to offer. The sixth form event for internal learners is on 10 November and we hope to see Y11 learners and their parents/carers at what is usually a very busy evening. In addition, to reduce crowding, we are holding a sixth form event for external learners on 9 November.

Thank you for your continued support with the lateral flow testing. The number of COVID-19 cases fell today after a high rate of infection last week. As you know, we were expecting the Local Authority Outbreak Team to arrive yesterday to carry out precautionary PCR tests for about 200 learners. This team are on site today and they will PCR test throughout the day. The PCR tests are more accurate than the lateral flow tests and results are sent to a lab for analysis.

All learners will be issued with additional lateral flow tests to take home before half-term. I have to say that I think our learners have done exceptionally well with all the testing and I am very grateful to them for their efforts to keep others safe. Learners will need to test either the night before or on the morning of the new half term. It is expected that all learners will have taken a test before they get on an academy bus. Anyone who has a positive lateral flow test should book a confirmatory PCR test via the national booking system.

The School Immunisation Team will be on site this Thursday, 14 October to roll out COVID-19 vaccinations along with the flu jab to eligible learners who have returned a consent form. A huge thank you to everyone who has already returned the vaccination parental consent form for the Admin Office to process. Please be aware that the nurses will not give any learner a vaccine without this consent and late forms may not be processed in time.

Please see the attached joint letter from the Secretaries of State for Education and for Health Care.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a good half-term break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mrs J McGuirk', written over a faint circular stamp.

Mrs J McGuirk
Principal