



Joseph Leckie Academy

December 9th 2020

Dear Parents

I am writing to let you know about the arrangements for the end of term on **Friday, December 18th 2020** and start of term in 2021

The term will end for all students at lunchtime at **12.30pm**. A packed lunch will be available for those students on FSM. Students will be able to collect a packed lunch from their break time collection point and either eat at break or when they finish at 12.30pm.

The Academy will re-open at the normal time – 8.30 am on Monday, January 4th 2021

May I take this opportunity to ask you to continue to support the following with your child by ensuring that he / she:

- **Has full uniform and is smartly dressed.** This means ties on correctly with two stripes and logo showing, top button fastened and shirts tucked in to trousers or skirts. Make up should be minimal. **Uniform now includes wearing the relevant identity pass at all times.** Please see the uniform poster and information on the Academy website.
- **As we remain in Tier 3 “high alert”, it is essential that all students continue to follow the Covid protocols when they return, which means:** they must come through the correct entrance for their year; masks **MUST** be worn at all times in communal areas except when eating or drinking. They should also walk on the left and abide by social distancing and non-contact with each other. It is essential that they stay in their year group zones at break and lunchtimes and leave by the nearest exit to their period 5 lesson. Full details of the protocol are on the website.
- **Please ensure you are aware of the Covid Protocols for your child and the latest advice for parents on how to access testing if you or your child develops any symptoms.** Please can I remind you that should your child test positive during the holidays **you must inform us via the Academy post box** email and include the date of their result and with a date when their symptoms started. Someone will be in touch with you before your child returns to the Academy, to ensure they isolate at home for the correct time and carry out any Track and Trace as needed. Information is available on the Academy website.
- Please can you remind your child of the importance of **regular hand washing/sanitizing** and the importance of social distancing from students or any other persons, who are not in their family bubbles.
- **Is on time for all morning tutorial periods.** This means students being in their tutor rooms by 8.35am. If you bring your child to school by car please leave plenty of time to get here on time allowing for traffic and adverse weather conditions and drop off your son/daughter at the correct entrance. When picking up your child please make sure that you park responsibly by not leaving your car near to the pedestrian crossing or on the hatched sections near to the Academy’s entry / exit gate and do not block in residents in the local areas.

Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, West Midlands WS5 4PG

Acting Principal: Rachel Cook

Tel: 01922 721 071 Fax: 01922 641 497

email: postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk

website: www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk



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- **Has essential equipment for all lessons.** This means having a pen, pencil, ruler as well as relevant books. For PE lessons students must have the correct kit, as specified in the uniform list, as well as a towel. All students should have a suitable bag in which to keep their books, planner, stationery items and PE kit / other items such as ingredients for food technology lessons in order to be ready to learn in lessons for each day.
- Please note that extra-curricular activities and period 6 have resumed since Lockdown. Please see information on the website.

Students who do not follow or meet the above Academy expectations may be subject to a range of sanctions in ensure the safety and well-being of all members of the Academy.

May I also remind you that leather jackets, hooded tops and sportswear are not appropriate and should not be worn to school? What should be worn is a proper, dark colored, warm outdoor coat, preferably waterproof for protection from the cold, rain and snow. This is particularly more important as the weather becomes colder and wetter.

Boots should only be worn when there is snow and ice on the ground, not as every day wear. Please note that trainers should not be worn in bad weather – they do not offer any more protection or grip than shoes.

Please would you ensure that your child does not have an extreme haircut or bright unnatural colored hair, this includes patterns or tram-lines (including eyebrows). Any student who fails to follow the uniform policy (as agreed by the Governing Board and available on the website), may be taught in isolation or sent home.

Covid Winter Grant Scheme and food over Christmas

The recently announced winter scheme will be made available to provide children and families with extra support this winter to ensure vulnerable households do not go hungry or without essential utilities. Payments will be made to those families with children in receipt of Council Tax reduction that provides support to families on low income.

Walsall Council will make these payments direct, via bank transfer for those in receipt of this income support. Therefore, Walsall Council are not providing vouchers for Free School Meals. For more information on Walsall's Covid Winter Grant Scheme please go to https://go.walsall.gov.uk/covid-19_information/coronavirus_covid_-_19_help_support_for_walsall_residents

Change in Academy Day from 22nd February 2021

Please see below for information on a slight **change to the Academy day** which will come into effect **after February half term 22nd February 2021**. This will mean a slight change to the end of the Academy day. I am including this now so that you have plenty of notice and we will remind you again nearer the time. This is necessary due to adjustments we made reducing student and staff lunch time following our changes in September which were introduced for Covid. This change will not affect the hours of education that your child receives whilst still allowing us to maintain the high safety measures we have implemented for Covid to keep child safe, as long as they follow all the protocols in the Academy. If you have any questions about the change, please do contact us via the academy postbox and we will get back to you.

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The Academy Day and Break and Lunchtime Bells from 22nd February 2021

8.30 am	Entry for Students through the designated entrance.
8.40 am	Morning Registration and/or Assembly (in forms currently)
8.55 am	Bell (5 min movement)
9.00 am	Period 1
10.00 am	Period 2
11.00 am	Break
11.10 am	Warning Bell
11.15 am	Period 3
12.15 pm	Lesson 4 for Years 7, 9, 11, 12 and 13 and afternoon registration Lunch for Year 8 and 10 (Year 8 canteen - Year 10 West Hall)
12.45pm	Lesson 4 for Years 8, 10, 11, 12 and 13 and afternoon registration Lunch for Years 7 and 9 (Y9 West Hall – Y7 canteen)
13.15pm	Lesson 4 for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and afternoon registration Lunch for Years 11, 12 and 13 (Year 11 West Hall - Y12/13 canteen)
13.45pm	Bell (5 minute movement)
13.50pm	Lesson 5
14.50pm	End of School

Can I remind you to follow the government guidance over the Christmas period to keep you and your family safe:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family>

Thank you for your support as always this term, especially under these difficult circumstances, which is very much appreciated. Please can we ask that you reinforce the above expectations before your child returns on 4th January 2021. I hope you and your families will have a peaceful, relaxing Christmas holiday and a healthy and successful New Year in 2021.

Yours faithfully,

Rachel Cook
Acting Principal

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