



# The Featherstone Academy

1 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## **IMPORTANT UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Due to an increase in positive cases across the academy and local area, and following consultation with Public Health England, we now need to put back in place the following measures. This will come into effect from Monday 4 October 2021.

### **REINTRODUCTION OF COVID SAFETY MEASURES WITHIN THE ACADEMY**

#### **Face Coverings**

**All students will be required to wear face coverings when on corridors and at other communal times, entering and exiting the school building, break and lunch times and when moving around between lessons.**

It is recommended that face coverings are for single use and should be washed or replaced regularly. Face coverings must be plain, suitable for a school environment and be worn sensibly. We do not expect that any Featherstone student would misuse or behave inappropriately with a face covering. Students should have a sealed plastic bag/receptacle to keep their face covering in when not wearing it. Students are advised to carry a spare face covering in the event that their original one becomes damp.

We understand that some students will have health conditions which means that they cannot wear a face covering. Any student who has a pre-existing medical condition that prevents them from wearing a face covering, should contact the Academy so that a health care plan can be put in place or updated and communicated with relevant staff. Students will be issued with an exemption lanyard that must be worn at all times.

In line with our PD policy, students not wearing a face covering or exemption lanyard will be issued with a comment in their planner. Students are being encouraged to take responsibility for remembering their face covering; they need to be wearing the masks properly (covering the mouth and the nose) at all times in the areas mentioned above.

#### **Hygiene**

It is vital that good hygiene practices are in place for all students. Hand sanitisers are located outside every classroom and in strategic areas around school (i.e. Dining Hall, entrances/exits); students will be expected to sanitise upon entering and exiting each lesson. Our cleaning regimes will increase again around school to minimise the spread of bacteria. We encourage everyone to "Catch It, Bin It, Kill It" at all times.

## **Bubbles and Social Distancing**

Our absolute priority for all students is good, quality education following the many disruptions they have faced over the past 20 months therefore we will not be reintroducing bubbles around school at this time. Where possible we will be asking students to maintain social distancing within school and to follow the school rules of walking around the school sensibly and quietly and to keep to the left to assist with this. As part of this regime, we are making a small alteration to morning break to reduce the number of students in the Dining Hall at any one time. Year 7 break time will be moved to 10.45am – please see the diagram below for the exact timings:

	8.15am	8.25am	8.45am	9.35am	10.25am	10.45am	11.15am	11.35am	12.25pm	12.50pm	1.15pm	1.40pm	2.30pm
YEAR 11	Registration		Period 1	Period 2	Period 3		BREAK	Period 4	Period 5		LUNCH	Period 6	* Period 7
YEAR 10	Registration		Period 1	Period 2	Period 3		BREAK	Period 4	Period 5		LUNCH	Period 6	
YEAR 9		Registration	Period 1	Period 2	BREAK	Period 3		Period 4	LUNCH	Period 5		Period 6	*End of Academy Day / Detentions Held
YEAR 8		Registration	Period 1	Period 2	BREAK	Period 3		Period 4	LUNCH	Period 5		Period 6	
YEAR 7		Registration	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3 (split)	BREAK	Period 3 (split)	Period 4	Period 5 (split)	LUNCH	Period 5 (split)	Period 6	

## **Parents Evenings**

We regrettably must move all planned face-to-face Parents' Evenings to our virtual platform, Edulink One. Where possible, teachers will transfer existing appointments made in school with students but please log in and double check you have your planned appointments – you may need to re-book.

*Year 11 – Thursday 7 October 2021*

Booking is open from 4.00pm Friday 1 October 2021 and closes at 4.00pm on Tuesday 5 October 2021.

*Year 9 – Wednesday 13 October 2021*

Booking is open from 4.00pm Monday 4 October 2021 and closes at 4.20pm on Monday 11 October 2021.

## **Covid-19 Vaccinations for 12-15 Year Olds**

The Schools Nursing Team have advised that our date for vaccinating eligible children is Friday 15 October 2021. Consent forms have been sent home with students in this age bracket today, Friday 1 October 2021. All consent forms must be returned no later than Friday 8 October 2021 without exception – any consent forms returned after this date will not be processed. **No child will receive a vaccination without the correct parental consent in place.**

You can find more information about the COVID-19 rollout to 12 to 15 year olds by visiting the following links:

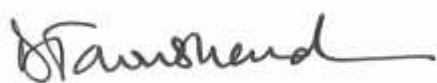
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-schools/covid-19-vaccination-programme-for-young-people-guidance-for-parents>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people>

Thank you for your understanding and continuing support with these measures.

If you have any queries regarding any information contained within this update, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Yours sincerely



Ms D Townshend  
Principal