



Rushden Academy Newsletter

Aspire, Explore, Succeed

03/09/2021

Message From the Principal



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Team Rushden - United we stand, divided we fall

Returning to school COVID updates

Dear Parent / Carer

We wish you a very warm welcome back to this new and exciting academic year. We are very much hoping for it to be less challenging and less disruptive, and I am sure that this is echoed in every family home.

Covid information, please note the full risk assessment is available on the website in the 'Key Facts' drop-down list:

1. Individuals should only stay at home for Covid-related reasons if:
 - they are symptomatic
 - they have tested positive with a PCR or LFD (they may return if a positive LFD result is followed by a subsequent confirmatory negative PCR within 2 days)
2. Schools do not decide on close contacts, instead NHS Test & Trace will contact those who test positive, or their parent /carer to identify close contacts. They will ask specific questions to identify those contacts who have had close, prolonged contact. Being in a setting with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not necessarily mean a person is identified as a close contact.
3. Fully vaccinated adults and those under-18 and 6 months identified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact are strongly advised to **take a PCR test**. There is **no requirement to self-isolate whilst awaiting that PCR test result** and so individuals should continue to attend school as normal. **If an individual is symptomatic, they should stay at home. If the PCR result is positive, the individual must self-isolate for 10 days**, and NHS Test and Trace will further identify any close contacts.
4. Adults who **are not fully vaccinated must self-isolate for 10 days** from the date of last contact with the positive case. 18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children and young people until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults.

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Message From the Principal Continued...

5. Test results will need to be recorded via the NHS Online reporting system for both negative, void and positive test results and the school will need to be contacted to report positive, negative and void results.
6. There is no need to wear a face covering at school, but it is expected that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport. It is expected that good hygiene rules are adhered to.

It was good to welcome the new year 7's today, although we did meet many of them during the summer school event. Having the whole cohort together for the first time was exciting and we did have an opportunity to showcase the whole school. We very much look forward to welcoming the rest of Team Rushden back next week.

We will be Covid testing pupils twice upon their return, provided we have your consent. Due to this requirement pupils will have a phased return as shared in July. As a reminder please note:

Year 8 will start school on **Tuesday 7th September**, they will need to arrive at school, using either gate for a 1pm start and will finish at 3pm. When they arrive in school on their first day, they will be directed to congregate in or just outside the Main Hall, depending on the weather. They return to school as normal on Wednesday 8th September at 8.35am.

Year 9 will start school on **Tuesday 7th September**, they will need to arrive at school, using either gate for a 9am start and will finish at 3pm. When they arrive in school on their first day, they will be directed to congregate in or just outside the Main Hall, depending on the weather. They return to school as normal on Wednesday 8th September at 8.35am.

Year 10 will start school on **Monday 6th September**, they will need to arrive at school, using either gate for a 11.25am start and will finish at 3pm. When they arrive in school on their first day, they will be directed to congregate in or just outside the Main Hall, depending on the weather. They return to school as normal on Tuesday 7th September at 8.35am.

Year 11 will start school on **Monday 6th September**, they will need to arrive at school, using either gate for a 9am start and will finish at 3pm. When they arrive in school on their first day, they will be directed to congregate in or just outside the Main Hall, depending on the weather. They return to school as normal on Tuesday 7th September at 8.35am.

Mrs J Burton
Principal

School Lockers

Dear Parent/Carer

ILS provides lockers for Rushden Academy students.

The lockers are owned by ILS and are available for students to rent on an annual basis. Rental costs are £25 per year allowing use from September through to July.

Please note all bookings terminate at the end of the school year in July. We apologise but there is no discount for lockers booked late in the year.

The locker size is as follows:

Height: 450mm

Width: 300mm

Depth: 450mm

To guarantee a locker please book online at our website www.ilsschools.co.uk

Lockers for September 2021 - July 2022 are available to book online now.

All rentals are subject to our terms and conditions which are available during the booking process.

Please note we are a separate entity from the school and all dealings will be directly with ourselves.

Yours sincerely



Paul Nugent
Facilities Manager



Independent Locker
Solutions Ltd



School Day Timings

Years 7 and 8	
Form Time	08.35-09.05
Period 1	09.05-10.05
Break	10.05-10.25
Period 2	10.25-11.25
Period 3	11.25-12.25
Lunch	12.25-13.00
Period 4	13.00-14.00
Period 5	14.00-15.00

Years 9, 10 and 11	
Form Time	08.35-09.05
Period 1	09.05-10.05
Period 2	10.05-11.05
Break	11.05-11.25
Period 3	11.25-12.25
Period 4	12.25-13.25
Lunch	13.25-14.00
Period 5	14.00-15.00

Rushden Academy Musical 2022



The Rushden Academy School Musical

IS BACK!

From September 2021 we are back in rehearsals for...



See the Performing Arts notice board for details
First meeting Tuesday 14th September 3.15 in the hall

Team Rushden Standards for September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Just a quick reminder in preparation for the start of the new academic year for Years 8-11 next week. Here is a further reminder of the key standards and expectations we have of our students prior to their return in September. The 4 key values of Team Rushden pervade all that we do and expect. The values surrounding being SMART, RESPECTFUL, showing RESILIENCE and being a TEAM PLAYER are fundamental in ensuring that as a school we continue to grow and work together towards excellence

Student Behaviour

2020-21 was a very challenging year following on from the lockdown period from March 2020 and then a further period of lockdown in January 2021. The disruption to learning this brought cannot be underestimated. For a few pupils returning to school it was a challenge in readjusting to routines and expectations. We will continue to support and challenge those that do not meet our values. As a Team we will continue to work together on ensuring that within classrooms the climate for learning is one in which accelerated progress plays centre stage and that student's focus in closing any learning gaps is not hampered by elements of low level disruption. In September, our key mantra will be 'Learning and Progress First'.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind all that the positive reputation of the school which we have been able to build within the community of Rushden is upheld by the conduct of our students on the way to and from school. We will always deal and address concerns that are reported to us and through our Behaviour and Exclusion Policy, action will be taken should any of our students bring the name of our Academy into disrepute within our community.

Student Attendance and punctuality

Despite all the challenges presented this year, it has been extremely pleasing to know that our students have shown a real commitment to attending school. Attendance was well over 94%. It is clearly a sign of positivity and resilience by our students and families to achieve this.

An area that we will be focusing on more strongly in September is punctuality, both to school in the morning and to lessons. It is a clear expectation that our students arrive at school in good time for the beginning of registration at 8.35am (Please note: That there is a staggered start to the week beginning 6th September to allow for asymptomatic lateral flow testing to take place). Equally, students need to transition quickly and with purpose between lessons and following the end of break time and lunch when returning to lessons.

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Team Rushden Standards for September 2021

Student Uniform

One of our key Team Rushden Values is about being smart and wearing our uniform with pride. This means that our uniform emphasises strongly the school culture we have and the values we hold. Our students represent the school within the community and it is important that they uphold our expectations as previously mentioned. We continue to insist that school shirts remain tucked in and that students arrive at school and leave school meeting this standard. For the majority of students this basic expectation presents no issues for them at all and has been wholeheartedly accepted as being central to our culture and values. It is now time for the minority to step up and be more aligned with our Team and SMART values.

As we have neared the end of term it is understandable that elements of uniform that no longer fits or tears are not being replaced until the new academic year. However, it is vital that in September our students arrive meeting the expectations and standards we have.

Students should not be wearing black jeans or jean-like material as school wear trousers. Leggings and jeggings are also not part of the school uniform.

In terms of footwear our line is that if 'it is black and can be polished' and is sensible for everyday wear it can be worn to school.

Please remember that the school blazer is an essential part of the school uniform and that hoodies and non school uniform jumpers and sweaters will be confiscated if worn in school.

We continue to address the issues of facial and more specifically nose piercings. These are not allowed in school and should not be worn. Our guidance is that retainers can be used for new piercings but we expect that by week 6- 8 the piercing is unlikely to close during school hours and therefore no retainer should need to be used from this point forward. Therefore any student who currently has a piercing will no longer need a retainer and should be prepared to arrive in school with no piercing jewellery or retainer on show.

The tools for school

This weekend provides the opportunity for a final check that pencil cases and all the tools for school have had a reboot and are refuelled ready for the new year..

Black pens	Pencils	Colouring pencils	Rubber	Highlighter	Glue stick	Ruler
	Protractor	Set square	Compass	Scientific Calculator		

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Team Rushden Standards for September 2021

Bullying at Rushden Academy

We continue to be proud of our record on matters related to bullying. There have been several student voice panels across all year groups and they have been unanimous in saying that bullying is not a problem and that it is rare at the academy. Students feel safe and are assured that if anything is reported it is dealt with. As an academy we follow the good practice set out by the Anti-Bullying Alliance in that all potential bullying incidents are assessed in terms of an incident being INTENTIONAL, that it is REPEATED, that it has clearly been HARMFUL and whether there is a POWER IMBALANCE. When students return in September they will all once again sign our Rushden Academy Anti-Bullying Charter as a sign of their commitment to ensure that bullying is not tolerated as part of Team Rushden.

The new academic year in September provides a further opportunity to continue to build our Team Rushden culture and ethos. Our aim is to ensure that Rushden Academy is recognised as a 'good' school. A school that the students, staff and community of Rushden can be proud of and a school everyone deserves. Let us, as a community, continue to work together to make this a reality.

Mr R Middleton
Senior Vice-Principal

Head of Year Change in Year 9 from September 2021

Miss Montgomery will be taking over the role as Head of Year 9 from Ms Monkman as of September. Ms Monkman has been an exceptional leader and has taken up the opportunity of leading on literacy across the academy for all students.

Miss Montgomery is very much looking forward to leading Y9 as part of Team Rushden and joining the strong and effective pastoral team at the Academy. Miss Montgomery will be formally introducing herself to the Year Group during the morning of Tuesday 7th September.

How to Access Go4Schools

Go4Schools is the online system that Rushden Academy uses to track student attendance, student progress and assign homework tasks.

Students and parents can access this at home to keep up to date, by checking timetables and homework deadlines. Student progress reports will be published through Go4Schools 3 times a year.

Please follow the instructions below to access Go4Schools.

Student access to Go4Schools

- ◆ Go to the Go4Schools student access page (on the top right of the Go4Schools home page)
- ◆ Type in your school email address in the first time user box (your computer login in followed by @rushden-academy.net)



First-time User?

If you haven't logged on to GO 4 Students before, type your email address and click the "please send me a password" button.

Email address:

Please note, if you are having problems with your password please contact your school. For Data Protection reasons we are unable to divulge or set passwords for students ourselves.

- ◆ This will send you an email link with your password
- ◆ Login with your new password

Parental access to Go4Schools

- ◆ Go to the Go4Schools parent access page
- ◆ Enter your email address (the one Rushden Academy contacts you on) to the first time user box
- ◆ This will send you an email link with your password
- ◆ Login with your new password

If you haven't received an email in 5 minutes, please double check you have your email typed in correctly and ask them to send the password again. If you have any problems accessing Go4Schools do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Mr P Bocking
Assistant Principal

Check if You or Your Child has Coronavirus Symptoms

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

Main symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- ◆ a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- ◆ a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- ◆ a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

What to do if you have symptoms

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:

- ◆ you're worried about your symptoms
- ◆ you're not sure what to do

Are You Eligible for Free School Meals?

If you are in receipt of any of the following, your child may be eligible for free school meals.

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, with no element of Working Tax Credit, and a household income below £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs)
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit - income dependant

You can check your eligibility and apply for free school meals through Northampton County Council by clicking [here](#).

Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

sex
contraception
exam anxiety
BULLYING
alcohol
HEALTHY EATING
social networking & cyber bullying
SELF HARM
relationships

DRUGS
family issues
SMOKING
body image

for friendly, helpful advice
TEXT YOUR SCHOOL NURSE ON
07507 329 600

ChatHealth

#weareNHS

Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

CAMHS LIVE
#MYMINDMATTERS

WE KNOW IT CAN BE HARD TO GET HELP.

CAMHS LIVE CAN BE ACCESSED VIA YOUR PHONE, TABLET OR LAPTOP AND IS A WEB CHAT. IT IS HERE TO HELP YOU ACCESS THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES YOU MIGHT NEED. SPEAK TO OUR ADVISORS ABOUT THE RIGHT OPTION FOR YOU.

LIVE AND ONLINE:
WWW.NHS.UK/CAMHS/LIVE

Camhs
Making a Difference for You, with You