

# St Matthew Academy

St Joseph's Vale, Blackheath, London SE3 0XX

Headteacher: Ms Miranda Baldwin

Head of Primary: Ms Joanna Chick



11 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

## RE: Update letter – Year 10

Firstly, we hope that this letter meets you well. We are sure that you will be as surprised as we are, that we are already half way through the academic year! It has been an eventful half term at the academy with lots to celebrate within Year 10 and the wider community. Mr Charlery and I are proud of the achievement of pupils in Year 10 since the resumption of school and would like to share some of the achievements of the cohort.

### Year 10 work experience

This week Year 10 pupils have been getting a taste of what it is like to experience the world of work. Hopefully this experience has afforded them the opportunity to explore possible career options and has fostered an increased self-understanding, maturity, independence and self-confidence. We do hope they have genuinely enjoyed their time away from the classroom environment.

### Year 10 Light Bearers

Year 10 pupils have been letting their light shine by taking on some extra responsibilities. They have been giving up lunch times and after school to mentoring pupils in younger year groups who need extra support for various reasons.

### Top 10 Achievement points

The pupils below have the most achievements points thus far. Well done!!!!

Light Bearers	
Charlie Morrin	Melissa Malunga
Joel 'Jeevaruban	Naomi Sifa
Nivithan Nageswaran	Malik Yunus
Vierec Angwe	Shahid Salim
Nathan Lottin	Rupertas Brazdzius
Divine Obasogie	Kavin Premkumar
Benita Asabere	Moyin Solaja
Melissa Malunga	Michael Fidelis

Name	Number of Achievement points
Nayely Burga Males	129
Wildy Cabral De Brito	107
Lara Lopes Tavares	104
Ibrakhim Iusupov	96
Kyson Thomas	92
Stiven Mateo Novas	89
Dominic Jastak	86
Naomi Sifa	84
Jamall Morrison	80

### Ranking season – Rank 1

The cohort has just undertaken its first set of ranking examinations. We are pleased with the attitude and aptitude pupils have demonstrated throughout the ranking process and look forward to sharing outcomes with you shortly.

### Year 10 RE PPE Exams

As year the 10 cohort prepares for their upcoming RE GCSE exams in May, we are pleased with the level of progress that is being made. It was a delight to see how diligently pupils have been working; coming in early to school for revision sessions, giving up their lunch times to do more revision and attending after school interventions. As a result of their hard work an impressive 77% of pupils achieved grade 9 – 4. I would like to highlight the following pupils for achieving an amazing grade 9 – 8 in their latest mock exam results.

Pupil	Grade Awarded
Kevin Akubueze	9
Naomi Alabi	9
Vieric Angwe	9
Benita Asabere	9
Andrea Crepin	9
Joel Jeevaruban	9
Kassandra Kamegni Kadji	9
Melissa Malunga	9
Divine Obasogie	9
Abdul Oladejo	9
Kavin Premkumar	9
Shahid Salim	9

Pupil	Grade Awarded
Edibeth Matos Mendez	8
Charlie Morrin	8
Betsaleel N'guessan	8
Javarn Nnoli	8
Al-Ameen Oladipo	8
Christian Omangelo	8
Praise Onye-Koller	8
D'angelo Pinnock	8
D'metri Ramator	8
Aaliyah Rochester	8
Danielle Salami	8
Yaseen Saleem	8
Moyin Solaja	8
Noah Vigille	8

Pupil	Grade Awarded
Makida Arsene-Mcneish	8
Angelima Baanah-Jones	8
Zeta Brown	8
Romeo Dalmadge	8
Dragos Groza	8
Efosa Ise	8
Finlay Jamieson	8
Micah Koroma	8
Jochebed Kumi	8
Ilyas Labrouzi	8
Rahul Magar	8
Christel Masasu	8

### Sporting activities

During the last term a significant number of pupils participated in sporting activities including football with some success. Although being victorious is the aim, you cannot always win. We are pleased that pupils have represented the Academy in various football and basketball competitions and are engaging in sport with the spirit of competitiveness, humility and self-reflection in the event of a defeat.

### Extra-curricular

More than ever, exercise is important for pupils' physical and mental wellbeing:

- Physical activity and exercise can be effective treatment strategies for symptoms of both depression and anxiety
- Each day is a new opportunity to engage in physical activity and exercise that can bring short and long-term benefits for mood, sleep, and physical health
- Consistency and sustained motivation may be enhanced by peer support, family support, or electronic platforms offering exercise programs
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The Academy is offering a range of extra – curricular activities and we are pleased that pupils in Year 10 have readily engaged in most of them this half term.

We look forward to sharing more achievements from the year group in the near future. In the meantime, stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully,



**Mr R Wanza**  
Assistant Headteacher  
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**Mr J Charlery**  
Director of Learning Year 10  
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# COVID-19 & schools

08.02.2022

## Dear Parents and Carers

As there have been several recent changes, we are writing to summarise NHS and Department for Education guidance on testing and self-isolation and what you need to know about your child attending school. This information is correct at the time of publication and may, of course, be subject to change in the future. More details can be found in [NHS guidance](#).

## Asymptomatic testing

Regular testing is still very important. All adults and secondary aged children/young people are strongly encouraged to take twice weekly lateral flow device (LFD) tests at home (if they are able) and [report results to NHS](#), including people who have had COVID-19 within the last 90 days and have completed the isolation period. **We are still advising schools to ask all visitors (including parents/carers) to do a LFD test before coming on site, to help protect children and adults in school.**

## When to self-isolate

### Symptoms

If your child has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 (high temperature; new, continuous cough; loss/change to smell or taste) even if they are mild, they should stay at home and get a PCR test to check if they have COVID-19. **You should tell your school and your child must not attend school while waiting for the results.**

### Contacts

People living with, or who have been in contact with someone with COVID-19, should self-isolate unless they are:

- under 18 years old;
- fully vaccinated –14 days have passed since their final dose of an approved vaccine;
- part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial;
- not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.

Adults and children (between the ages of five and 18) who are contacts should do LFD tests every day for seven days, if they are able to and [report results to NHS](#). They should follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#) and consider limiting contact with [people who are at higher risk from COVID-19](#).

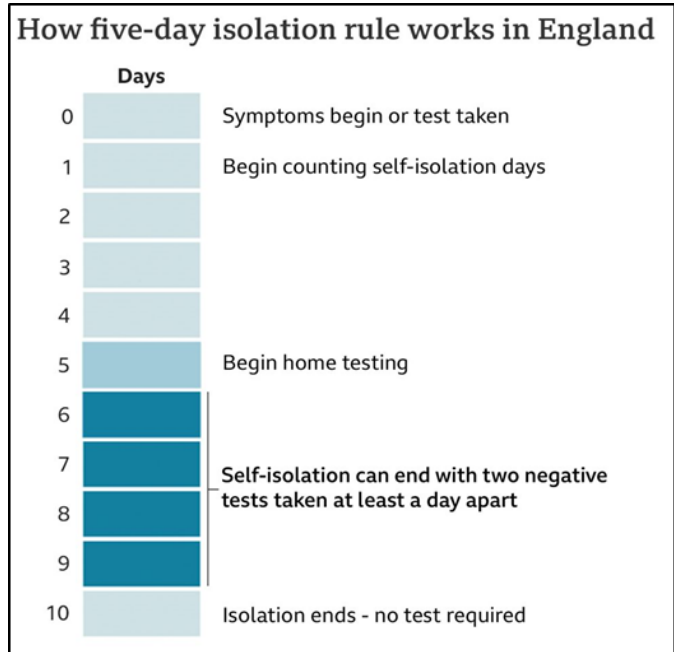
If tests are negative, your child can continue to attend school. If any of the tests are positive, they should self-isolate. If they are unable to test for any reason, please discuss this with the school to consider the best approach to your child attending school.

## Testing positive

For adults and children who test positive (on a PCR or LFD test), the self-isolation period includes the day symptoms started (or the day of the positive test, if you have no symptoms) and the **next 10 full days**. After **five full days (i.e. on day six)** you may be able to stop self-isolating if you do an LFD test on days five and six and:

- both tests are negative
- you did both tests at least 24 hours apart
- you do not have a high temperature

You can stop self-isolating after the 10 days if either you do not have any symptoms or you just have a cough or changes to your sense of smell or taste— these can last for weeks after the infection has gone. If you have a high temperature after the 10 days, or are feeling unwell, keep self-isolating and seek medical advice.



## Returning to school before the end of 10-day self-isolation period

For anyone ending self-isolation on day six, it's important to [take steps to reduce the chance of passing COVID-19 to others](#). Schools have infection control measures in place, including enhanced cleaning, ventilation and regular asymptomatic testing programme for staff (and students in secondary schools) that help to reduce the risk of transmission.

**If your child is ending self-isolation before the end of the 10 days, please contact the school before your child returns so that they can put in place any extra plans, if necessary.**

## Vaccinations

COVID-19 vaccination is now available free to everyone aged 12 years and over, unless they are medically exempt. You can find national and local details of where to get vaccinated [here](#).

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The government recognise that good school attendance and face to face learning are incredibly important for children and young people's education and wellbeing. As always, our schools are doing an amazing job in keeping children and adults in school as safely as possible. There may be times when extra COVID-19 measures are needed if there are high numbers of COVID-19 cases or action taken if there are staff shortages. Your school will inform you of these as early as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**Angela Scattergood**  
Director of Education  
Lewisham Council

**Dr Catherine Mbema**  
Director of Public Health  
Lewisham Council