



# St. Edward's Church of England Academy

Westwood Road, Leek, ST13 8DN

Telephone: 01538 714740

Principal: Mr. T. Hutchinson

<http://stedwards.academy>

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Covid-19 Weekly Update



The Easter holiday is now upon us and lock down restrictions are lifting slowly but surely. As a Christian community we look to the Cross at this time of year and prepare for the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb on Easter Sunday. I feel there are many parallels for us all as we have come through this time of lock down, the stress and strains it has put upon us and now we are able to embrace with care and in line with restrictions new freedoms and the life we want to live.

I hope that over the Easter period amongst all the chocolate and Easter Bunnies that you are able to take time to reflect on the true meaning of Easter and why this is such an important festival for our Academy community.

## Updates for this week

### Free School Meal Vouchers:

The FSM vouchers for the Easter holiday have been sent out. [queries@vexrewards.com](mailto:queries@vexrewards.com)

### Year 7 and 8 Pupils: Reporting Lateral Flow Test Results:

Please can parents/carers remember to send in your home testing results to the link below and not the Academy contact form. This form below has been set up specifically to collate this information:

[Year 7 and 8 Lateral Flow Home Testing Result Form](#)

## **Home Testing Information Year 7 & Year 8**

A detailed letter with further guidance on this has been sent out to Year 7 and 8 parents/carers. Information on this has also been posted on the Academy website. A Video and links with further information can be found below.

### **[How to do a Covid self-test video](#)**

### **[Informing the Academy of your result](#)**

### **[Informing the NHS of your result](#)**

### **[Testing at Home Y7 & Y8 Letter](#)**

### **[Privacy Notice for Staff/Pupils Testing at Home](#)**

New guidance from the Government informs us that from now on, if a positive result is recorded for a lateral flow test. Then a confirmatory PCR test must be arranged either using the online facility or by calling 119. If the PCR test result returns negative the pupil/s will be able to return to the Academy. We politely request that you make us aware of all of these results and we will continue support you and your children during this process.

## **Individual Pupil Plans**

Please note: all individual Pupil Plans will be found on Go4Schools and can be viewed by parent and pupil. We will no longer be sending paper copies home unless they are specifically requested.

The Plan will be found in the 'Documents' section at the bottom of the pupil's front page on Go4schools. We will contact you by phone or email to advise when a new Plan is added.'

## **Swimming for Year 5 and 6 Pupils**

After the Easter holiday, swimming lessons for pupils in year 5 and 6 are going to begin. A letter with further details will be sent out to those pupils who will be involved.

## **Thank you to Michelin**

We would like to offer our grateful thanks and appreciation to Michelin who have kindly donated a large volume of furniture and other very useful materials to the Academy this week.  
Thank you!

## **Year 7 Anti Bullying Ambassadors:**

Any Year 7 pupils who would like to register their interest to become an Anti-Bullying Ambassador need to complete the form below. As an Academy we aimed to stamp out bullying when it occurs and re-educate our community about the causes and impacts of bullying. If this interests you please complete the form below and Mr. Simm will then provide you with further details after in Easter when you are in school.

### **[Year 7 Anti Bullying Ambassador Sign Up Form](#)**

## **Challenge 50**

Please remember to carry on completing your Challenge 50 activities and send your photos of what you have been up to, to the [information@st-edwards.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:information@st-edwards.staffs.sch.uk)  
We love to see what you have been up to and really want to celebrate all the amazing things you do with our Academy community via Facebook.

## **Fidget Toys**

Please can parents/carers ensure that their children are not bringing fidget toys into school. These devices distract from teaching and learning and lead to a loss of focus and lack of engagement in lessons. Should a pupil receive a diagnosis requiring any aid to help them learn the Academy will work to support this.

## **Appointments and Collection of Pupils**

If your child has an appointment during the school day, please can parents put a note in their planner to show the teacher and the teacher will allow them to leave during the lesson. The pupils can then ensure they are at the office on time for collection. Currently, lessons are facing disruptions due to staff having to locate pupils who are unaware they are leaving for an appointment and this is impacting the whole class.

## **Stakeholder engagement:**

The views and queries of you as parents and carers matter to us at the Academy and help us to rethink and reshape in order to improve our practice and provision.

For this reason, parents and carers have the opportunity to submit questions or queries via the form (link below). The Principal will then provide a recorded video message of responses to these queries that will be shared with parents and carers as we are still unable to conduct face to face meetings.

If questions/queries are such that a response would identify an individual such cases will be dealt with in a confidential manner. [Parent and Carer: Stakeholder Question Form](#)

## **Tennis for 4 -11 Year olds**

The Lawn Tennis Association have just launched a new programme to encourage children to play tennis at their local clubs. If you could promote this with your parents, we would be very grateful.

This is a modern approach to tennis training. Forget standing around waiting for your turn to hit a forehand. Think dynamic sessions catered for all abilities.

We want to encourage children to play tennis throughout their lives – and be active too. So, if your child is aged 4-11, why not give it a try?

£29.99 (+£5 P&P) gets you:

- Six weeks of coaching with specially trained coaches
- A tennis racket and set of balls
- A branded t-shirt
- Activity cards, a lanyard, stickers and a certificate (provided by the coach)
- To book onto a course click the link below:

<https://www.lta.org.uk/play-compete/lta-youth/start/>

## **Mobile Phones:**

We are happy for pupils to have their mobile phones with them as they are a piece of equipment that keeps them safe on the journey to and from school. However, we do not allow phones to be used in school and will be reminding pupils about this. If phones are seen in school, they may be confiscated and held in the Academy office until they can be collected by a parent/carer. Evidently, we wish to avoid this situation to reduce the risk of transmission through unnecessary visits to the Academy office.

To avoid this please can parents/carers reinforce that mobile phones are not to be seen or used in school.

## **Year 8 Leaver Hoodies**

Leaver hoodies for Year 8 pupils are now available to order via the School Leavers Company. The deadline for placing orders is **Thursday 6th May**. Please see this letter for further details about the hoodies and how to place an order: [Year 8 leaver hoodies letter](#)

## **Spare PE kit donations**

Please can I request if any parents/carers have any spare Academy PE kit or serviceable trainers at home that pupils have grown out of and you would like to donate could pupils bring it to their PE lessons, where we will quarantine them. We will give house points for donated items and redistributed them to pupils who need it or keep it in school as spare kit.

## **PE kit**

Pupils will need to come in their PE kit on the following days:

<b>Year 5</b>	5Ed / 5EI / 5Is	Monday and Friday	5Ne/5FI/5Ni	Tuesday and Friday
<b>Year 6</b>	6Ed/6EI/6Is	Wednesday and Thursday	6Ne/6FI/6Ni	Monday and Friday
<b>Year 7</b>	7Ed/7EI/7Is	Monday and Friday	7Ne/7FI/7Ni	Thursday and Friday
<b>Year 8</b>	8Ed/8EI/8Is	Wednesday and Thursday	8Ne/8/FI/8Ni	Tuesday and Friday

## **Pupils with medical needs and/or diabetes who are returning**

If your child has medical needs and requires medication (e.g. inhaler and spacer, Epipen, diabetic kit), please ensure that your child brings their medication to school with them ready to hand in at the school office on their return.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's medical needs, please contact us via the contact form on the Academy website.

## **Sims App Lite**

We use the Sims app to collect the most up to date data about students and their parents, to comply with the GDPR safe data transfer. Please continue to use the Sims app to inform us of any changes to your details e.g.; address, mobile number.

## **Travel survey**

Please can we request that all pupils complete this survey about travel to school. The survey will take no longer than 30 seconds to complete. [Pupil travel survey for all pupils to complete](#)

## **Lunch menus**

Please see the updated menus from our catering team:

[Aspens Menu Summer Term - Week One \(from Monday 19th April 2021\)](#)

[Aspens Menu Summer Term - Week Two \(from Monday 26th April 2021\)](#)

## **Parent Pay**

Please make sure that you have checked your Parent Pay balance, cleared any debts and topped up ready for pupils to access their funds.

## **Before and after school club**

Kids Space before and after school club will resume as per the arrangements prior to the Christmas break. If you require any further information regarding this, please call Lyn on 07534 839280.

Thank you for your support in helping us to keep everyone as safe as possible at school. Have a lovely Easter break.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. T Hutchinson  
Principal