

26 March 2021

Dear Parents

As we approach the Easter break, there are a few messages for your attention.

Lateral Flow Testing

On Monday, students who have provided consent will be issued with another lateral flow test pack. The Department for Education have requested that testing continue through the Easter holiday, therefore, we shall issue another two test kits in Wednesday afternoon's registration to cover the holiday period. If students are absent when kits are distributed they should collect them from the pastoral office.

Thursday 1 April

Is a normal school day and not an academic tracking day as originally planned in the school calendar. The buses will run as normal. Once again, I would like to repeat the request that those parents collecting students from school park away from the site and are respectful of the local residents.

Uniform

Initially, when we made the decision to change from grey to black uniform in September 2019, we gave a two-year grace period for the transition, with black uniform being required for all students by September 2021. Because of the Covid pandemic, I appreciate that some uniform has not experienced the wear that would have been expected; as a result of this I am extending the grace period until September 2022. The black uniform will be the only uniform available for sale, but existing grey items can continue to be worn. As was stated in the original correspondence, the mixing of grey and black items of uniform is permissible. If parents are experiencing financial hardship we have an 11-16 financial assistance fund, details of which can be found on the website <https://knoleacademynew.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/document/Financial-Assistance-Policy-2020.pdf?t=1588257242?ts=1588257386>.

Currently, we are having to address some issues with uniform, most notably in the dress uniform. Let me be clear, our expectations have not changed in this area and the dress code can be found on the website. If students are wearing the dress uniform it should be with "white or black ankle socks" or "black/flesh coloured tights". Knee length socks are not permitted. Secondly, in addition to a watch, "gold or silver stud earrings (one in each lower earlobe)" is the only permitted jewellery.

Mobile Phones

While we allow them in lessons to be used at the discretion of the teacher, they should be on silent and out of sight. They should not be used at break and lunch or be seen in the corridors.

Finally, please remember clocks go forward this weekend.

Best wishes



David Collins
Headteacher