

15th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term reflections

In many ways it has been a very testing term. Covid 19 has had a large impact on the academy with a partial closure being necessary towards the end of the term. I am thankful for the many of you who sent in letters of appreciation for the work being completed by staff throughout offering online learning in order to ensure students did not fall behind. I am hopeful the academy will start back on 21st February as normal. It was good to begin our online parents' evenings with year 11. Families were really pleased with this effective way of teachers communicating with you about the progress of students. We will now be using this for the remainder of the parents' evenings this academic year. Dates will be published shortly.

Outdoor coats

As part of the risk assessment windows and doors to classrooms needed to be open, however if Covid restriction are lifted (week beginning 21st February) as is suggested this will no longer be the case . Therefore, outdoor coats **will not be allowed** to be worn in classrooms and will need to be taken off students enter the building.

- A sensible, warm and waterproof outdoor coat - No hoodies must be worn; these will be confiscated immediately. The same applies to caps.



Not allowed



Allowed

Executive Principal – Mr A Booth

Minster Campus: Minster Road, Minster-on-Sea, ME12 3JQ
Sheerness Campus: Marine Parade, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 2BE
Tel. 01795 873 591

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Equipment - Ready to Learn

It is vital every student is ready to learn for each lesson, however it has been noticed that many students are not ready for lessons as they do not have the correct equipment taking valuable teaching time.

Our expectations of all learners are to be fully and effectively prepared for all lessons and so we ask for all our young people to have a well-equipped pencil case to ensure learning opportunities and learning time are not lost.

On our return: In order to make sure we start the term well the academy will be issuing each student with a pencil case with a selection of the items below. After students have been issued with these, it will be necessary these are looked after and are brought every day to the academy. They will be expected to show it to their Head of Year as they enter the building each morning. Failure to bring this will result in a consequence:

- Two or three plain black writing pens
- One or two drawing HB equivalent pencils
- Ruler
- Eraser/Rubber
- Green pen for improvements to marked work
- Highlighter

New Horizons

As you are aware all students have been offered an iPad; this will be used in the academy to enhance learning. It will need to be brought to and from the academy every day. If your son/daughter have not yet received this, please complete the student home user agreement, available to download from the following link - [Oasis Horizons Home Use Agreement.pdf \(oasisacademyisleofsheppey.org\)](https://www.oasisacademyisleofsheppey.org/Oasis_Horizons_Home_Use_Agreement.pdf). Therefore, the need for an appropriate school bag is even more important and we do require all students to have one. Please can you ensure this is the case for your son/daughter.

- School bag, waterproof, large enough to hold an iPad and A4 exercise books and which can be securely fastened (no plastic drawstring bags).

Attendance and home visits

We all need to work hard on attendance as we are not where we should be as an academy. Please can you do all you can to send your son/daughter to the academy as valuable learning is not able to take place if they are not in the academy. For those families where **A Booth** poor attendance is common, we will be making home visits and also providing a mini bus to **E12 3JQ** bring students in. If you wish to have a conversation about your son/daughter's attendance, **E12 2BE** please do contact the relevant Head of Year who will try and support you. **5 873 591**

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Mock examinations

When year 11 students return, they will be going directly into another series of mock examinations. These are really important, and I would ask you make sure your son/daughter does engage with revision and really see these as an opportunity to understand what they know but also indicate gaps of knowledge which we can try and address between now and the summer exam series 2022. Post 16 mock examinations also being shortly after our return; it is vital Year 12 and 13 are revising and accessing the interventions and revision materials provided.

Student safety – travel awareness - front of sites

With daylight hours now increasing, we ask if you bring your son/daughter to the academy on either site, by car to drop off, or in the afternoons to collect, please consider stopping at a short distance away to allow your child to complete the final part of their journey on foot; to meet your child at the end of the school day at an agreed meeting place again so students can leave and walk to you.

We would like students to have suitably clearer spaces to aide their arrival to and departure from the academy sites. In making small adjustments we not only help towards less congested areas, we help our young people in their emerging independence in making part of the journey by themselves, or alongside their peers.

Our local bus service providers require access into each access road; this would be easier without having to manoeuvre around the number of vehicles arriving into the same space.

To support this at our **Sheerness** campus, we are additionally asking residents to kindly park their vehicles in alternative locations. We are not in a position to enforce such a plea, however we hope in an effort to create a safer environment for our students, residents will be mindful of their parked vehicle attributing to this.

For vehicles arriving or waiting to collect at our **Minster** campus, we ask the highlighted pedestrian walkways in the lower car park are not parked across to enable students and patrons of the Kent Adult Education Centre to utilise.

Thank you for your consideration and support on this aspect of safety.

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I do hope you have restful half term and look forward to the next term starting on Monday, 21st February.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A S Booth'.

Mr A S Booth
Executive Principal

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