

Principal: Delia Smith OBE
Director of Sixth Form: Emily Iliffe



Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear Parents/ Careers of Year 13

We are delighted that your son/daughter will be returning to Ark Academy to complete this vital last year of their secondary education. Our Year 13 Induction programme starts on:

Wednesday 8th September

With all students in by:

8.20am

All students need to attend the sixth form induction in the required **professional dress code**.

The school day starts for Year 13 at 8.20am allowing time for students to access lockers and wash hands before period 1 at 8.25am. I enclose a copy of the times of the school day, please note the earlier finish on Friday.

As you will be aware changes to some of the Covid-19 arrangements have been made by the government over the summer break.

Face Coverings

The government has removed the need to wear face coverings on the school premises. However, they continue to recommend that they are worn in enclosed, crowded spaces where you come into contact with a wide variety of people. This includes public transport. We will continue to advise/promote the wearing of masks in crowded corridors, canteen and any other public spaces. Students/staff who wish to wear masks in other spaces may do so.

Close contact tracing

Schools will no longer be responsible for contact tracing for positive cases of Covid-19, this will be led by NHS Test and Trace. Any child under the age of 18 years old and double vaccinated adults identified as a close contact of a confirmed positive case will not need to isolate even if contacted by NHS Test and Trace but will be strongly advised to take a PCR test.

Covid-19 testing on return to school

However, with the return to school of so many students after the summer break all schools/colleges are required to take two supervised lateral flow tests within school. The first of these will take place at the start of the induction programme. After this initial period, we will continue to issue lateral flow tests to all students to use every 3 to 4 days to take at home. Staff will continue to do the same.



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We will continue to operate in year zones but bubbles in the strictest sense will no longer operate as we enable students to use practical areas and also mix for larger group activities such as assemblies.

Outbreaks

In the event of an outbreak at school, we may be advised to reintroduce bubbles and face coverings and may be asked to support with close contact tracing.

Staying Safe

For most people, Covid-19 will be a mild illness. We will continue to promote

- Washing hands with soap and water often and for 20 seconds.
- Using hand sanitiser gel if soap and water not available.
- Covering mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Putting used tissue in bin immediately and wash hands afterwards.
- Additionally, and very importantly we will keep **spaces well-ventilated** this means doors and windows will be open wherever possible. **All evidence shows that this is one of the key mitigating factors in preventing Covid spread.**

Contact details – if any of your contact details have changed, in any way (mobiles, other phone numbers, address) please contact, Ms Johnson (f.johnson@arkacademy.org) with the changes. It is vital that we hold all the most up-to-date information, particularly in current circumstances.

If you have any further queries regarding your son/daughter's start to Year 13 in Ark Academy Sixth Form, please contact Ms Sach (l.sach@arkacademy.org).

We are immensely proud of our sixth form and rightly proud of the incredible destinations that year on year our students achieve.

Our best wishes to all Year 13 for this crucial year.



D. Smith
Principal



E. Iliffe
Director of Sixth Form

Timings of the School Day

KS5 Timetable							
Monday - Thursday				Friday			
Start	Finish	Duration		Start	Finish	Duration	
08:20	08:25	00:05	Arrive in sixth form go to locker and/or straight to lesson	08:20	08:25	00:05	Arrive in sixth form go to locker and/or straight to lesson
08:25	09:20	00:55	P1	08:25	09:20	00:55	P1
09:20	10:15	00:55	P2	09:20	10:15	00:55	P2
10:15	10:45	00:30	Tutor Time	10:15	11:10	00:55	P3-PSHE
10:45	11:10	00:25	BREAK	11:10	11:35	00:25	BREAK
11:10	12:05	00:55	P3	11:35	12:30	00:55	P4
12:05	13:00	00:55	P4	12:30	13:25	00:55	P5
13:00	13:55	00:55	LUNCH	13:25	14:20	00:55	LUNCH
13:55	14:50	00:55	P5	14:20	15:15	00:55	P6
14:50	15:45	00:55	P6				
15:45	16:40	00:55	P7				

