



Fulford School

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20th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the half term holidays, I would like to thank you for your support in ensuring a very successful first half term. It has been an absolute pleasure to have the children back in school moving from classroom to classroom and putting real effort into their work. The atmosphere in school is really positive and focussed. Uniform standards have been excellent and lessons have been really purposeful. The behaviour and attitudes of students has very much supported our school values.

Whilst ongoing COVID-19 cases and the number of colds and other illnesses has meant attendance is a little behind where we would like it, we have really appreciated your support in ensuring your children are in school whenever possible and that they arrive at school on time. Punctuality is much improved, this enables us to get the day off to a great start.

COVID-19

Since our return, we have continued to do all we can to reduce the spread of COVID-19 within school whilst still aiming to provide as close a feeling of normality to the school day as possible. We have continued to emphasise the need for good hygiene, good ventilation and have continued to ask staff and students to wear face coverings in communal indoor spaces.

Today I am asking you to read two letters. Attached is a letter from Sharon Stoltz, The City of York Director of Public Health. There is also a [joint letter](#) from the Secretaries of State for Education and Health which can be accessed through the link. Both talk about how we can continue to support the limiting of the spread of COVID-19.

We had expected the roll out of vaccines for 12 to 15 year olds before the half term break but that will not happen now until mid to late November.

Last week I spoke with the Director of Public Health and she shared with me that the driver of COVID-19 cases within the city remained school aged children with the majority of household transmissions coming through school aged children.

In line with her recommendations and in the absence of the expected vaccine roll out, we have decided to continue to ask all students and staff, who can, to continue wearing face coverings inside communal areas until there is a reduction in the rates of transmissions.

As stated on many occasions, the importance of keeping school open and children in lessons, along with their health and wellbeing and that of their families is paramount. Thank you for your continued support over this. Students have reacted with patience and great maturity to our ongoing requests.

Aerosols

I wrote to you last academic year about the use of aerosol deodorants and perfumes in school. These are **not allowed**. Some children have an extreme adverse reaction to aerosol spray. It can be life threatening. I know no one would want to put anyone else in danger but the blunt truth is they do if they bring aerosols into school and spray them. Can I please ask that you again make this really clear to your children. By not bringing them into school, they are supporting the whole school community and displaying the empathy and kindness that is a constant feature of our students.

Merger Consultation

Thank you to those parents and carers who have already engaged in the consultation process around the proposed merger of SYMAT and South Bank Multi Academy Trust. You can make comment through the following email address: consultation@fulford.york.sch.uk

There will be a drop in session at 6pm on 1st November at Fulford School if you wish to speak in person to either myself or the trustees of SYMAT about the proposal.

I hope you have a great half term break.

With very best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Steve Lewis
Head Teacher



The South York Multi-Academy Trust.
Registered address: Fulfordgate, Heslington Lane, Fulford, York YO10 4FY.
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