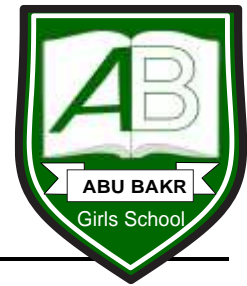


ABU BAKR GIRLS SCHOOL

Shelley Campus, Scarborough Road, Walsall, WS2 9TY

Tel: 01922 333786 Fax: 01922 646175



Friday 23rd October 2020

End of Half-Term Letter

Dear parents and guardians,

Assalamualaikum

Thank you for your continued support and positivity as we head into our half-term break after a long and eventful half term!

It looks as though current restrictions on school operation are likely to be here to stay for some time, and we are incredibly pleased with how well our detailed arrangements to ensure safety of students and staff have worked so far.

Now that we have routines in place, we want to maximise student progress and ensure that all year groups are well focused on important assessments which will take place before the end of term. Year 11 Mock Examinations will be held in January to give students time to prepare thoroughly, show what they can do and gain confidence on the path to final examinations.

We are also going to be concentrating on some core standards throughout the school – including ensuring that students arrive in correct uniform and with the right equipment.

Your support as parents in this area is both crucial and highly valued.

Corona Virus Update

Some clarification of national rules and regulations:

If a child is exhibiting coronavirus symptoms they should stay at home, self-isolate and book a test. Family members, including siblings, should also self isolate.

If the symptomatic individual tests positive, they should isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms and all members of the same household should also isolate – but for 14 days from the first day of symptoms.

If the symptomatic individual tests negative and they no longer have symptoms, they and household members may resume normal life.

Please note that there is now a LEGAL DUTY to isolate following a positive Covid-19 test, both for the positive individual and for any close contacts identified by test and trace.

Note: If you're asked to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace and you're on a low income, unable to work from home and will lose income as a result, you may be entitled to a payment of £500 from your local authority under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme-claiming-financial-support/claiming-financial-support-under-the-test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme>

Self - Isolation Rules

From September 28th, it has been an offence, punishable by fines of up to £10,000 not to follow the rules on self-isolation.

To be clear, a child must self-isolate:

- When they have COVID-19 symptoms (and only leave home to get a COVID-19 test)
- When they are waiting for a COVID-19 test result.
- When a member of the same household has COVID–19 symptoms.
- When a member of the same household is waiting for a COVID-19 test result.
- When a member of the same household tests positive for COVID-19.
- If they are sent home from school because they are a contact of someone with COVID-19.
- If they are contacted by Track and Trace

This means that:

- The child stays at home.
- The child does not go to school, madrassah or any other public place.
- The child does not go to the shops
- The child does not go on public transport or use taxis.
- The child does not have visitors or visit anyone else
- The child does not go out to exercise

The responsibility for ensuring that children self-isolate when they are required to do so rests with their parents and guardians. Again, to be absolutely clear, **failure to self isolate is an offence under the law.**

Reporting a positive case during half-term

Whilst we hope everyone remains healthy and Covid free over half-term, we appreciate that some students may test positive during this period. It is vital that we are informed immediately, even though we are on holiday, so that we can inform any students and staff that may need to self-isolate as a consequence.

This will only apply if a positive test result is recorded between Saturday 24th October and Monday 26th October 2020 (inclusive).

Please email studentsupport@abubakrschool.org.uk and include the student's full name, year group and the date of the positive test result with evidence.

Examinations 2021

Parents may be aware that there have been announcements this week regarding the summer examinations series. The key headline is that the bulk of the examinations will take place later in the school year, with results days also pushed back accordingly.

Most GCSE examinations will take place between the 26th May and the 2nd July 2021.

We will be requiring Year 11 to sit additional Mock examinations in the core subjects prior to May half term to ensure that even in the event of some students having to isolate or becoming unwell in June / July – they will have taken at least some examinations to standardise any teacher assessments which may be required.

Careful preparation and revision will of course be key, and we are generally pleased with how our Year 11 cohort has been working at the start of this academic year.

GCSE Results Day: **Friday 27th August 2021**

Please note: Monday 2nd November is a Staff Training Day, and pupils are not required to be in school.

All pupils should return to school on **Tuesday 3rd November 2020**.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you all once again for your continued support and wish you all the best for Half-Term. Please take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Mr H Saini

Associate Headteacher