



Follow us on Twitter @Latimercollege



## LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 21 MAY 2021

### COVID-19 Protocols Update

#### LFD Home Testing Programme

Please can we remind you of the importance of these tests being used routinely on a **Monday** and **Thursday** morning.

We have also been asked once again by the Department for Education to remind you of the importance of reporting a test. The government's reasons for this can be accessed [here](#). This is very much linked to the monitoring of data on a local and national level in order to minimise the risks of increased community transmission.

We also have to remind you that the home testing kits that have been provided by the government are **for twice weekly asymptomatic testing only**.

#### Test and Trace Support Payment for Parents and Carers

Parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their education setting or by NHS Test and Trace can apply for a [Test and Trace Support Payment](#) or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria. This is to ensure that eligible parents and carers receive financial support if they are unable to attend work due to childcare responsibilities.

#### Wearing of Face Masks

As you are aware, from Monday 17 May restrictions were eased as the government moved to the next stage of their roadmap. As a result of this, it is no longer recommended that students wear face masks in the classroom or in communal areas.

Should you wish your child to continue to wear a face mask, they are welcome to do so. As we have some staff who fall into the extremely clinically vulnerable, students may be asked to wear face masks in some lessons. We are able to provide disposable face masks in these circumstances if required.

We will continue to monitor infection rates both locally and nationally and to take into account the latest government guidance and we will update you if there needs to be any changes to our protocols. Our Risk Assessment, which can be accessed on our [website](#), has been updated to reflect these latest changes.

### Learning and Progress

#### Awarding Qualifications in Summer 2021 Information

Our Year 11 and 13 students enter the final week of their exam assessment schedule next week and we want to say a huge well done to them!

From next week Year 13 students will only need to attend lessons in which they still have assessments. We then look forward to celebrating with them at their Leavers' Assembly on Friday 28 May.

Year 11 students will be following their Alternative Timetable next week and only need to attend where they have assessments scheduled. However, we must stress the importance of their attendance, even if the assessment is a short one. In line with our assessment mapping, all of the assessments in the final week will contribute to a student's final grade in that subject.

A copy all of the key documents that we have devised to support students with the Centre Assessment Grade process, including our Centre Policy for Determining Teacher Assessed Grades Summer 2021, can be accessed on our [dedicated website page](#).

If you need any further information or wish to ask any questions about this process, please direct them to Mrs Levick, Examinations Officer: [tlevick@latimer.org.uk](mailto:tlevick@latimer.org.uk)

As Year 11 will remain on roll until Friday 25 June, we will be publishing a timetable next week of activities for them to access in Term 6. The majority of this will be remote learning activities which will support them with their transition to the next stage of their education. The on-site activities that we will be offering are:

Friday 18 June: Leavers' Assembly

Monday 21 June - Friday 25 June: Sixth Form Induction Programme

### **Coming Soon: Year 10 and Year 12 Trial Exams**

As part of preparing students for this time next year, we will be holding Year 10 and Year 12 trial exams at the start of Term 6, from Tuesday 8 to Friday 18 June. These exams will be vital in helping us to identify key gaps in skills and knowledge, helping us plan for September, and also allow us to provide feedback to students on learning that they can focus on over the summer break. The schedule has now been published and we ask for parent and carer support with encouraging their child to start the revision process now.

During this examination schedule, students in Year 10 and 12 only need to attend if they have an examination, with the exception of Level 3 BTEC students in Year 12 who should also attend all of their BTEC lessons.

A daily catering provision will be offered between the first and second exam session for Year 10. This will be a mid-morning break. Year 12 students will be offered a break and lunchtime provision.

### **Year 7 Virtual Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE)**

We will be publishing details shortly for the Year 7 SPRE on Wednesday 23 June between 4.00pm and 7.00pm. This will be hosted using a web-based video call system, School Cloud, where parents and carers will be able to book appointments in advance of the evening. Please note that we have several teachers who teach a number of Year 7 classes. Therefore, we need to apologise in advance that appointments may not be available for all subjects and a priority booking system may have to be implemented. We will outline what this process will be prior to the event going 'live'.

## **Safeguarding**

### **10 Top Tips for Parents' Mental Health**

The [SSS Safeguarding Team](#) (Safeguarding Service for Schools) have produced a new 10 Top Tips Parent Resource, that is designed to offer practical advice on how parents and carers can safeguard their own mental health and promote their positive wellbeing. The resource is available as a document and short video presentation.

We would also signpost parents and carers to the [Parent Safe](#) website which draws together information sources to help you keep your children safe online.

## **Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations**

### **Year 12: Future Destination Exploration**

Year 12 students have been exploring a UCAS toolkit to support them in considering their next steps after Sixth Form. Their focus this week was on different career options and the myths that might be associated with different types of jobs. Next week we will focus on what drives the students to help them make the right choices. This is an important time in their ongoing journey and we will continue to deliver activities to support them in writing their personal statements for their future University, Apprenticeship or Job Applications.

## Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success



Our Millionaire Club is certainly accelerating! We welcome the following new members this week:

Jacob Jarvis, Keisi Kocka and Katie Lee who have read over 2 million words and Kieran Beri, Abina Gama and Kyra Newman who have read 1 million words each. Well done to all!



We offer our massive congratulations to Oliver Back, Seth Barratt, Layla Perkins, Holly Greasley and Gemma Cox who are the first five students this year to earn their Epraise Ruby Award for earning over 750 points. We cannot wait to see who will be the first to the next milestone of reaching 1000!

Today sees our Year 11 and 13 Leavers' Draw, which within the first 12 hours of being open had over 4,500 entries – an indication of how many points the students have earned over the course of this year. Good luck to all of those that entered!

### Would your child like to learn a musical instrument?

There are such a wide range of benefits to learning a musical instrument, including developing patience and discipline, building confidence, exercising the brain and developing IQ, improving memory and developing social skills and emotional well-being. That is why at the College we are passionate about offering lessons in as many different musical instruments as we can, taught by the fantastic visiting teachers from NMPAT.

We offer lessons for woodwind (flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon), brass (trumpet/cornet, tenor horn, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba), strings (violin, viola, cello, double bass), piano/keyboard, drum kit and guitar/bass guitar.

These lessons cost £154 a term (11 weeks of individual lessons, 20 minutes each).

If you are interested in your child accessing these, please contact Ms Winfield: [bwinfield@latimer.org.uk](mailto:bwinfield@latimer.org.uk) with the name of the student and the instrument they would like to learn. We will then contact you directly with details of the payment information and NMPAT terms and conditions.

Please note that we can offer financial support to eligible students so if you are interested, please do not let cost be a barrier. Please contact Ms Pankhania, Assistant Principal, who will be happy to discuss the matter with you: [jpankhanian@latimer.org.uk](mailto:jpankhanian@latimer.org.uk)

## Other News

### Managing Student Catering Accounts

We do apologise for the 'glitch' that we recently experienced with School Gateway. This was a national problem with the technology and not specific to The Latimer Arts College.

Whilst most students managed their accounts well during this time, some students do seem to have overspent. As accounts do not show a negative figure, but will show a £0.00 balance, we will send a text message to inform parents and carers of any overspend. We would be really grateful if you could then address this as soon as possible.

### FSM Half Term Vouchers

North Northamptonshire Council will provide vouchers to parents and carers to support with meals over half term for all students who are entitled to Free School Meals. Voucher codes will be generated and issued to the College to forward onto families by email before half term. Families will receive one £15 voucher for the half term period per eligible child and they can be redeemed and used at: Asda, Aldi, Iceland, Marks & Spencer's, McColl's Newsagents, Morrison's, Sainsbury's or Waitrose. Please do let us know immediately if you have changed your email address to ensure that you do not miss out.

## Calendar 2021-2022 Update

You may be aware that an extra bank holiday has been agreed for next year to celebrate the Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - the first time any British monarch has reached this historic milestone. The May Bank Holiday weekend will be moved to Thursday 2 June and an additional Bank Holiday on Friday 3 June will see a four-day weekend created for the celebrations.

As a result of this, one teaching day will be removed from the calendar. We have decided that this will be Tuesday 4 January and the College will now be closed on that day. Staff and students will start Term 3 on Wednesday 5 January.

## Dates for your Diary

Please take the time to view our [calendar](#) and ensure that you are aware of all of the key dates for the year.

Friday 28 May	End of Term 5
Monday 7 June	Training Day: College closed to students
Tuesday 8 June	Start of Term 6: College re-opens to students <i>This will be Week 2 on the timetable</i>
Tuesday 8 June	Year 10 and Year 12 Exams (until 18 June)
Wednesday 16 June	Moving Up Evening: Live Event 6 pm
Monday 21 June - Friday 25 June	Sixth Form Induction Week
Wednesday 23 June	Year 7 SPRE, 4-7 pm
Thursday 1 July	Moving Up Evening: 1:1 Sessions 4-7 pm
Tuesday 6 July	Year 10 SPRE, 4-7 pm
Friday 16 July	End of Term 6
Monday 19 July	Training Day: College closed to students
Tuesday 20 July	Training Day: College closed to students

## Summer Results Days

The results for A Level and Level 3 BTEC qualifications will be published on Tuesday 10 August.

The results for GCSE and Level 2 BTEC qualifications will be published on Thursday 12 August.