



# Stanchester Academy

1 March 2022

Dear Parent

Wow! Wow! Wow! What an event, thank you to all those staff and students involved in Aladdin, it was a real delight to see our incredible students perform with such confidence and talent. I was also so delighted to see so many parents and carers turn out to support and I know it meant the world to all our young people. Unfortunately, due to the storm and school closure on the last day of term our final night was on Thursday 17 February. If, as a result you require a reimbursement of your ticket purchase, please contact the finance team [finance@stanchester.co.uk](mailto:finance@stanchester.co.uk) and they will assist you with this.

We return to school in a new era of how we will live with covid, please take a moment to read some important messages from some key teams around the school and, as ever, do get in touch with us via the School Office if you require any more information.

This week, we celebrate World Book Day. Students know that I love reading and talking to them about what they're currently reading. I also thoroughly enjoy popping into our morning 'Drop and Read' tutor times to see our brilliant tutors bringing a shared story alive. This week, we will continue to celebrate the joy and wonder that a great book can bring to our lives.

I know this will be another busy term at Stanchester with clubs, trips and plenty of learning to enjoy and I thank you for your continued support of our school community.

As ever, do get in touch with us with any questions or comments.

Yours faithfully

Ellie Forward  
Headteacher



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Emotional Wellbeing in Schools and Colleges

Covid and medical updates:  
**Message from the Government.**

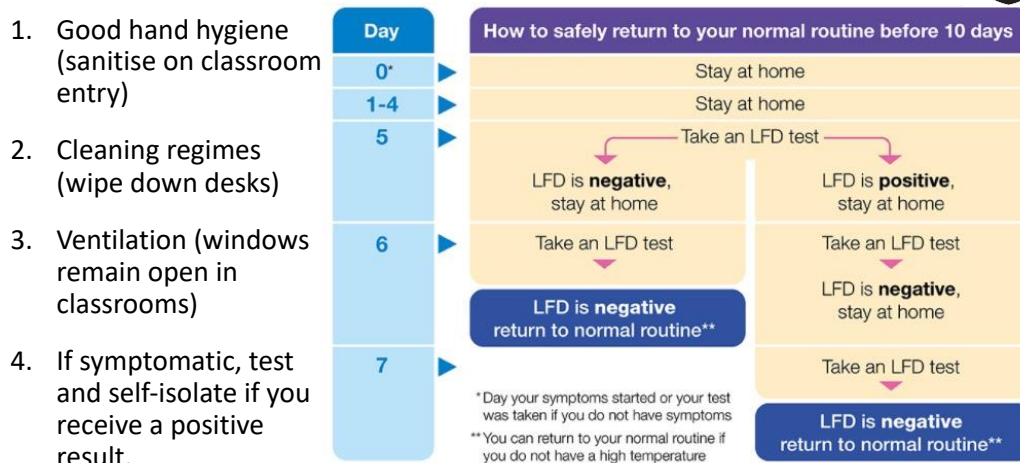
Students and staff are no longer required to take twice weekly lateral flow tests. The academy will **no longer be provided** with a supply of free lateral flow tests from the DfE. Should staff or students require these, they must source them independently online ([click here](#)) or via a pharmacy.

As of Thursday 24 February there is no legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. **Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home** and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days (see below).

There is no requirement for a close contact to test daily for 7 days, or self-isolate if they are unvaccinated.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March the immunisation team will be returning to offer eligible students their first/second COVID vaccination and HPV jabs.

## COVID Control Measures:



## Attending School Message from the Attendance team:

School education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Research clearly demonstrates the link between regular attendance and educational progress and attainment. Parents/carers and the school staff should work in partnership in making education a success and in ensuring that all children have full and equal access to all that the school has to offer. As a school, we will encourage parents and carers to ensure that their child achieves maximum possible attendance and that any problems that prevent this are identified and acted on promptly. As parents, it is their responsibility to ensure that their children arrive at school and return home safely.

Since January we have seen a small increase in individual students being late to lessons. We have reviewed this as a team and timed how long it takes to walk from one side of the site to the other and added in a transition bell to help students to arrive on time. From **Monday 7 March**, students who arrive after the bell will be put into a same day or following day lunchtime detention.

We will continue to ensure teacher discretion is used with any classes late from PE or re-roomed are not sanctioned.

At Stanchester Academy we understand the link between attendance and achievement. In order to promote positive attendance, we have the following attendance rewards in place.

- Weekly Prize Draw for each year group for all students with attendance over 97% that week.
- Punctuality Draw for each tutor group with no lates to school or lessons logged that week.
- Half termly letters home for those with 100% attendance each half term.
- Additional achievement points for the tutor group in each year group with the most improved attendance each week.

School gates and line ups

***Message from the Pastoral Team***

From **Monday 7 March** only year 11 students will use the top gate, all other students will come in from the bottom gate, this is to improve communication with students regarding upcoming exams, RA grouping and afterschool sessions.

This term we will also be opening a hot and cold food hub in the year 11 area. Once this is up and running, we will return to all students being able to access the refectory during both break and lunch times.

From **Monday 7 March** year 10 students will also complete a daily tutor group line up so that their Head of Year can share with them notices and communications as one community group. This will also provide Mr Meadows with the opportunity to speak to individual students and address uniform and equipment issues first thing.

The new year 8 toilets are open from Monday 28 February and the portaloos will have been removed from site. This toilet block is unisex although cubicles have been marked with gender specific signage. We also now have a separate toilet block and changing room for our students who identify as being non-binary.