



Ark Charter Academy

Thursday 1st April

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your phenomenal support as students have returned to the Academy this term. It has been a pleasure to welcome all year groups back into the Academy. Thank you to those of you who have supported the Asymptomatic Testing Programme which is also helping things to run safely.

I would just like to take this opportunity at the end of term, to give parents and students a few reminders for the Summer Term, which commences on Wednesday 21st April 2021.

Uniform:

Firstly, I have had several Year 11 parents contact me to say that their child has grown out of their blazer and, with only six weeks of school left for these students, they do not think it worthwhile to purchase a new one. We totally understand this and have made the decision that for Year 11 students only, they can wear their black school trousers/skirt, white shirt and tie for the rest of their time at Ark Charter. The blazer should not be substituted for any other item of clothing, except a plain black school jumper. With regards to school shoes, if your child has grown out of them, then black all leather trainers are an acceptable alternative.

All students in Year 7 - 10 are back in full uniform, including blazers from Wednesday 21st April 2021.

Could I please remind you that, and I hope you agree, we have been very lenient with the students' uniform on return to school, more so than other local schools! Therefore it should not be a surprise that our expectations, now that retail is opening coupled with supermarkets stocking uniform, are that students will come back in the Summer Term in full school uniform and following all the school uniform rules. This includes rules on piercings, jewellery, makeup and hair colours. If you need a reminder of the uniform rules, our Uniform Policy is on the school website. We understand the dilemmas parents have faced over the past year, but would now like to make a move towards returning to our normal rules and procedures.

PE kit:

From Wednesday 21st April 2021 students should bring PE kit to change into as required. Students **should not** arrive at school in PE kit. Changing rooms will be cleaned regularly throughout the day.



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Ark Charter Academy
Hyde Park Road Southsea PO5 4HL
T 023 9282 4204
info@charteracademy.org.uk
charteracademy.org.uk



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After School Clubs:

These are resuming after we return and will comprise initially of a mixture of sports.

Punctuality:

Please note that our times of the day are still an 8.35am registration with the first lesson commencing at 8.45am for students in Year 7-Year 9. There is an 9.25am registration with the first lesson commencing at 9.35am for students in Year 10-Year 11. We encourage students to be in school 10-15mins before registration. It is essential that students are punctual every morning in order that they do not miss any of their learning in their first lesson.

Equipment: We have provided full equipment for all students at least twice now but cannot continue to do so. Please also ensure that your child has all the equipment they need for school. They will still need to have a clean black mask daily until government guidance changes.

Home testing:

All students will be issued with a COVID home testing kit today to bring home and test over Easter. We require two tests before return to school and suggest these are carried out on Friday 16th and Tuesday 20th April.

Don't forget to report your results on the government website at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result. If your child has a positive test result, please also email me at f.chapman@charteracademy.org.uk

Lastly, I would like to wish you all a restful Easter break. I am very hopeful that masks will not be mandatory in classrooms when we return and that normal activities will start to resume! We all look forward to seeing you all for the start of the Summer Term on Wednesday 21st April 2021.

Warm regards,

Fiona Chapman
Principal



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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



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