

PAA

1 April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the Easter holidays, we are pleased to be able to update you on a very successful and productive spring half term following the return of our students to school. They have, once again, settled back into school life tremendously well and shown great maturity in their approach towards the in-school testing programme and a real determination in their return to learning. It is important that home testing continues for those students that have completed their three tests in school in line with the normal Sunday and Wednesday late evening pattern, ensuring they test as late as possible in the evening and, therefore, do not need to leave the house after testing. Results need to be reported to the school and the NHS as usual and the details of how to do this are on the *key information and updates* page of the school website.

There is a genuine sense of community and teamwork across the school. The national Coronavirus picture continues to improve, and this is also reflected in the regional and local data. There has, inevitably, been some disruption to learning in school as a result of a small number of positive cases but, for the overwhelming majority of our students, learning has continued uninterrupted and as normal. This is clearly good news, but there continues to be a need for us all to play our part in observing the hand, face and space guidelines to make sure that we keep the potential spread of the virus, and any corresponding disruption to learning, under control and to an absolute minimum.

Information about our remote learning provision, in the case of the need for student close contact isolation, can be found on our dedicated *remote learning* page on the school website by selecting the second button on the home page. There are continual updates to this page, so please check back regularly. Students that need to isolate must remember to keep to a routine of timetabled lessons, wherever possible, and make sure they stop at the end of the school day. There is also information on our website about our approach towards the awarding of summer 2021 grades and support for students through the following link.

<https://www.jesmondparkacademy.org.uk/article/2021/3/29/how-gcses-as-and-a-levels-will-be-awarded-in-summer-2021>

Please continue to consult our *key information and updates* page on the school website as it is regularly updated. You can access this by selecting the first button on the home page. The Covid-19 isolation period is 10 days and all positive cases of Covid-19 for students accessing provision in school only must be reported to the school immediately. During term time, telephone the school on (0191) 2818486. However, if you are unable to speak with a member of staff in person do not leave a voicemail, please email us at admin@jesmondparkacademy.org.uk. There is also an urgent need to report all positive cases for children attending the current school provision during school holidays. For the

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Easter holidays, you can report cases to school up until NOON each day until Wednesday 5 April (inclusive). You must report cases during the holidays by email (in addition to using the school reporting form and informing the NHS on the *key information and updates page*) at admin@jesmondparkacademy.org.uk. Please include all details of the case in your email including student name, year group, test date, result date, type of test (home LFD or a PCR booked test) and the date when any symptoms started (please state if there were no symptoms). A positive result from a home LFD test **must** be confirmed by a booked PCR test and you will need to inform the school, again by email, of the outcome of that confirmatory booked PCR test. After NOON on Wednesday 5 April, please report any positive results directly to NHS 119.

Following the Easter holidays, Steve Campbell will be taking up his post as the Principal at Jesmond Park Academy and he will be writing to you during the first week back at school after the Easter break. For us, it has been a pleasure to oversee the school during the past few months and fantastic to see our students, parents/carers and staff pull together so magnificently in a time of such disruption and uncertainty. The flexibility and support from everyone is undoubtedly what has carried us through these difficult times and will continue to help us plan through what we all hope will be better times to come. Once again, we would like to pass on the thanks of the staff for the ongoing messages of support we have received. Have an enjoyable and relaxing Easter break with the family and we look forward to welcoming our students back into school on Monday 19th April.

Yours faithfully
Paul Anderson/Claire Smith
Acting Principals