

**HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS**

19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope all of our community have had a restful Easter break. As I write this there is a glimmer of sunshine and warmth peeking through so here is hoping for some sunshine in the weeks ahead. Not quite the weather we had this time last year though as we released our now famous cover of 'Mr Blue Sky'!

The Easter break also brought the sad news of the passing of HRH Prince Phillip which I know will be poignant for many of our families in the community. If you think your child may need any additional support on return to the Academy then, as always, do let us know.

As we return to the Academy for (a hopefully uninterrupted Term 5) I wanted to highlight any updates or changes that have been received over the last few weeks:

- Face Coverings – the position on face coverings in the Academy was unchanged in the most recent Government update. That means face coverings should remain being worn by all staff and students who are able and willing at all times when inside (except for when they are sat eating/drinking). They can be removed during PE sessions and also when outside at social times (which we would obviously encourage all students doing especially in the nicer weather). The intention is for face coverings to be removed in schools when the science supports and currently the aim is for the review on 17<sup>th</sup> May to consider this step.
- Testing – all students who are willing and able are being asked to continue to test themselves at home twice a week using the LFD test kits. Results should be reported to the NHS and to the Academy using the previously shared links. We will continue to supply test kits for all of our students. **All** adults are also now eligible to have access to regular home LFD testing as well but these kits must either be collected from a test site or ordered for home. If you want additional kits for adults in the household the [link for information and ordering is here](#).

You may have also seen an announcement from the Government and Ofsted around the approach to the concern centred on historic sexual assaults coming to light in schools and wider society. It is important for me to highlight again that this is in no way a problem or concern specific to Bristol Met (or even to schools in general) but does highlight something important for us, as a society, to look at urgently. Of course we, as Bristol Met, will have our part to play and there will be specific things for us to address over the coming months. Additionally we, as educators, will have a wider part to play in contributing to a change in society. Finally, as a community, we will have a joined up part to play in driving a fundamental change in wider society to ensure that future generations do not have the experiences being reported. I will continue to provide updates over the coming months with any local areas that we are working on as part of this approach.

Finally, the holy month of Ramadan is now upon us and for all of our Muslim families I know that this is both a challenging time but also a rewarding and joyous period. As always we will do all we can to support any of our students who are observing a period of fasting during this period. Ramadan Mubarak to all of our community.

Best wishes for the coming term,



Mr C Shaw  
Principal