

Principal: Miss. S Paige BA (Hons)

Email : [enquiries@uah.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@uah.org.uk)

Website: [www.universityacademyholbeach.org](http://www.universityacademyholbeach.org)

University Academy Holbeach  
Park Road  
Holbeach  
Spalding  
Lincs  
PE12 7PU

Tel: 01406 423042

August 31<sup>st</sup> 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your family have enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming pupils to the school and, as we near the start of the new academic year, I should like to update you on arrangements for the autumn term.

The easing of Covid restrictions means that pupils are able to access the full site, including provision for specialist teaching classes. We welcome this as it will allow pupils to enjoy a richer learning experience and environment.

With the removal of year group pods, the Government expects and recommends that face coverings are worn in communal areas and when travelling on public and dedicated transport to and from school. Whilst this is not statutory, we will be encouraging pupils to wear a mask when moving around the school buildings. I know that, with the rise in cases, many pupils and staff will wish to continue using a face covering in social areas and, at times, in classrooms.

Pupils will return to school and will be tested on the following days:

Year	Return date	Test date	Further Test
7	Monday 6th	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 9th
8	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>
9	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>
10	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 10th
11	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>
KS5	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> – afternoon	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> - afternoon

**Pupils in the Sixth Form are invited to attend for testing prior to their first day on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Upon arrival they should report to the Main Hall for collection. Results will be available 30 minutes after testing which will end at 4pm.**

The link to the Google Form which will allow you to give your consent can be found below. I ask that you complete this form prior to your child's return or start date to enable us to prepare for the testing and the provision of kits. <https://forms.gle/QxDguqj3egAxnpp6>

As those aged 16 and over are able to give their own consent we will only be seeking permission for pupils in Years 7-11.

#### **Positive Lateral Flow Test (LFD)**

Should your child test positive we will ask you to collect them from school with immediate effect. You will need to book a PCR test and follow the guidance on self-isolation. If the PCR test is taken within two days of the

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LFD, and it is negative, then your child will be able to return to school as long as they do not have any Covid-19 symptoms.

Please do not send your child to school if they have symptoms of the coronavirus. Please organise a PCR test as soon as is possible. The NHS will manage communication with close contacts through contact with parents/carers. Please do inform us if this is the case as this will ensure that we do not use Truancy Call unnecessarily.

Government guidance now states that individuals will not be required to self-isolate if they are in contact with a positive case and, as such, we will no longer be sending pupils home if this occurs.

**Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:**

- **they are fully vaccinated**
- **they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months**
- **they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial**
- **they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons**

A video on self-swabbing, can be found on the **school website** on the page titled: **COVID TESTING**. It will be most helpful to share this information with your child, as this will help to put their mind at rest and support the process in school. The folder also contains answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) regarding data protection, a diagram explaining how to self-administer the test and our Privacy Notice.

### **Arrival on site**

Upon arrival on site on the first day of return pupils will be greeted by staff and guided to the following areas and to their tutor groups:

Year 7 – MUGA (at front of school)

Year 8 – MUGA

Year 9 – Science Yard

Year 10 – Science Yard

Year 11 - MUGA

**The school day will revert to an 8.40am start and a 3.35pm finish for pupils in Years 7-11. This will see the end of the staggered end to the day. Pupils will be allowed on site from 8.20am.**

### **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club will be open each day at 8am. Parents/Carers can register for this by emailing: [enquiries@uah.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@uah.org.uk). Pupils will need to enter via Pupil Reception.



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### **Attendance**

The school will continue to monitor attendance in line with government guidelines. It is essential that, should your child be required to be off school for any medical reason, you contact the school and maintain lines of communication.

### **Uniform**

We are very aware of the challenges that families have faced with the impact of the pandemic. As a school we have sought to show understanding in recent months as pupils readjusted themselves to the expectations of the school in terms of uniform and behaviour.

As we start the new term pupils are required to attend in the correct uniform including appropriate shoes and hair colouring. Details of the uniform can be found on the school website. Any queries can be directed to the school. Clothing can be purchased from 'Shotbowl' in Market Deeping, details for which can be found on the school website. I should like to stress that, although school trousers and skirts are available from the supplier, the school openly accepts these items being purchased from other suppliers and outlets such as Sainsbury's, ADSA, Morrisons, Matalan, Tesco and Marks and Spencer. Trousers should be tailored and skirts should be knee length.

Pupils are expected to wear black leather shoes and not trainer styles (like Nike Air Forces), which are more often than not, more costly. Staff will be speaking to your child should they attend in inappropriate footwear and without the correct clothing. We do hope that the summer break has allowed you the time to order uniform. We are aware that some pupils choose not to wear the correct uniform and look forward to your support in reinforcing the school expectations.

### **Mobile Phones**

There has been much in the news in recent months about the concerns regarding mobile phones in school. Whilst we recognise that pupils will wish to carry a phone for a personal reasons, these should be placed in pockets and bags and not seen or heard in school. Pupils understand the requirements regarding mobile phones and I feel it is important to reiterate that persistent disregard of the rules can result in a phone being stored in a secure place until the end of the school day. We should like our young people to benefit from verbal dialogue and time spent away from online games and social media networks. We look forward to your support in this aim.

I wish you all the best for the remainder of the summer break. We look forward to welcoming pupils current and new to the school in September.

Yours sincerely

Miss S Paige

Principal