



Lady Manners School

Dear Parents and Carers

Pandemic

It is now over two years since the start of the pandemic and our enforced initial school closure.

As we continue to adapt to the Government's 'Living with Covid' plan, the school is now returning to its usual routines and day-to-day protocols. It would be incorrect, however, to assume that everything is completely back to normal, and it is clear that the ongoing pandemic continues to present challenges. Positive cases have certainly not been eradicated and we remain vigilant in dealing with this virus.

We are pleased to report that our numbers remain relatively low. We continue to follow the government guidance which states that children who are unwell with a high temperature, should remain at home and avoid contact with other people. Students who test positive for Covid-19 should remain at home for three days after the positive test result. They can return to school when they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to attend. The full guidance is [here](#).

Vision and Values

Assemblies have been delivered across year groups to actively promote our three core values: "Aspire, Include, Thrive". We are now developing a new school logo to reinforce these values as they become embedded across the school. Students played a pivotal role in selecting the values and we are appreciative of their constructive inputs.

School Uniform

At Lady Manners School, we have very high expectations regarding school uniform. The vast majority of students continue to wear their uniform appropriately and with pride, and are an absolute credit to our school. However, a small number of students are currently not wearing their uniform in line with our expectations.

We recognise that through the Covid era, a number of temporary concessions have been made to uniform, particularly with regard to the cold weather and the need to keep windows open to ventilate the school. This may have led to some extent to the decline in standards in relation to a small minority of our school population.

As we approach the warmer months of the year, we will be returning to our usual uniform and reinforcing our high expectations. After the Easter break, sweatshirts are no longer to be worn, although V-neck navy jumpers are acceptable. Black school shoes must be worn - trainers and boots are not allowed. Coats must also be removed in lessons.

We will be addressing incorrect uniform at the start of the new term. We thank you in advance for your support in helping to maintain our high standards

Catch Up Work and Interventions

Intervention strategies are ongoing. Learning mentors in English and maths continue to work creatively and provide effective support. We have recently appointed a new science learning mentor to work alongside our existing mentors in numeracy and literacy.

School-led tutoring has been introduced for Year 7 and Year 8 students and is now being delivered to boost either literacy, science or numeracy. Easter revision lessons are also being planned for our GCSE and A Level students. These will complement the lunchtime revision sessions that are currently taking place for Year 11 students across most GCSE subjects. Subject options are also being finalised for our current Year 9 students.

Adapted Exams

As you will no doubt be aware, public examinations are scheduled to take place in schools next term for the first time since 2019. Each awarding organisation provided advance information on 07 February 2022 on the focus of the content in the majority of subjects at GCSE, AS and A level. This information has been used to guide revision programmes and to enable teachers to plan their lessons precisely and time-efficiently. Year 11 and Year 13 students performed well in their recent mock examinations and should now act on subject feedback to fully prepare for the summer examination series.

Key Events

School events have been taking place throughout the term, including two music concerts. These events provided an opportunity for our highly talented students to showcase their musical abilities across a wide range of specialisms. These events were delivered to full audiences and we thank parents and carers for their continuing support.

As part of the Tycoon Business Enterprise scheme, four Year 12 Tycoon Enterprise teams each successfully secured start-up finance from the Peter Jones Foundation. They have now begun the marketing and trading stage of their Tycoon experience. The four teams recently hosted a well-attended event in the school's Vocational Centre. During this time, many younger students were able to meet the teams and support them by purchasing their products.

Inter-school fixtures have continued throughout the term across a wide range of sports, and with great success. House competitions are ongoing and there is a great sense of community across year groups as students collect points on behalf of their houses (Barker, Cockerton, Glossop and Taylor).

We are pleased to announce that we have recently recruited a new Duke of Edinburgh Award Manager, to start after Easter. Plans are currently being made for the summer term and further details will be provided in due course.

Fund-raising

Our recent fund-raising day in support of Ukrainian refugees enabled us to collect a grand total of £5061, which far exceeded our target amount of £2000. Thank you to all who contributed to this fund-raising effort.

We have also been informed by staff from by the Chesterfield Food Bank that the collection by Lady Manners, just before Christmas, resulted in the largest single donation they had ever received from an individual organisation, with the exception of supermarkets.

This is a wonderful achievement and one for all students, staff and families to be very proud of. Sincere and grateful thanks for your continuing support.

Parent Governor Appointment

Further to nominations from parents for a Parent Governor, we are delighted to inform you that Mr James Heaton-Jennings has been appointed for a four-year term of office.

Looking Ahead to Next Term

We are looking forward to a busy summer term and are gearing up towards the examination season. Students are well-prepared and will be fully supported in their endeavours to achieve strong outcomes. There are also a number of important events that will be held during next term, including a 'World of Work' week for our Year 10 students.

On behalf of staff and governors, I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable Easter holiday.

Gary Peat

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