

The Derby High School

Science and Arts College



31 March 2021

Dear parent/carer,

I hope that you and your families are keeping well.

As we come to the end of the Spring Term I would like to thank you all for your support for our work at The Derby High School. The return to school has been successful with students recognising the importance of their education and respecting the need to keep themselves and others safe. For some students the pandemic has had an impact on their well-being and the effects of this have been noticed in school. We are providing additional support for those who we are aware need it. Please do let us know if your child would benefit from this.

The Government has requested that staff and students maintain the twice weekly testing at home over the Easter break. Bury Local Authority have announced that parents/carers can also take part in testing if you wish (see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff#primary-or-secondary-school-staff>). Test kits can be collected: -

- through an employer, if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site – you may need to book an appointment
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online – do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

Further details around the Lateral Flow Tests can be found in a letter sent by the School Business Manager (see - **Re: Coronavirus (COVID) rapid-result testing over the Easter holidays.**)

During the holiday period the Government has requested that we continue with the track and trace system we have in place. It is important that you report any positive COVID cases to the school via the link on the school website so we can speak with parents/carers of children who have been a close contact.

Departments/teachers have adapted their curriculum plans as we all work towards recovering any lost learning that may have taken place. Your child will have been set homework for the next few weeks across their subjects taught and I would ask that you ensure that this is completed to a good standard. All homework set is recorded in the student planner – please check it is written down and finished. Any concerns regarding homework should be sent to the Head of Year in the first instance.

We have successfully recruited three new parents onto our Governing Body. Parent Governors play a vital role on the Governing Body holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school. Please see overleaf for the information submitted as part of their nomination.



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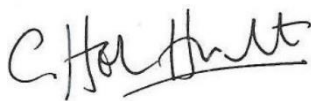
Traditionally, at the end of each term we dedicate an assembly to student rewards. In the absence of any large gatherings we are hosting an 'Easter Term Prizegiving' on Wednesday evening at 6 pm on line via a live stream. On the night we will be announcing our reward winners for this term, alongside some pre-recorded performances and celebrations of outstanding work. Please do join us for this event. The website has all the information. Students have been accruing a large amount of reward points in school and all teaching staff are nominating a 'Star of the Week'. Winners will be sent a postcard home in recognition of this achievement.

Over the Easter break we believe the Government will be revisiting their recommendations around the wearing of face masks in schools. As soon as we have more information we will share it with you.

Finally, just a reminder that all students should return after Easter wearing full school uniform. We have supported parents/carers who have not been able to purchase clothing during this time but as the shops re-open in the next few weeks we do expect that students are dressed according to our policy and sanctions will be applied if they are not.

Wishing you all a lovely break. Do take care of yourselves and stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Ms C H Hubert
Headteacher

Parent Governors

Imam Hassanat Ahmed

I have been an Imam in the Bury area for many years. Over this time, I have worked with many schools in promoting inter faith work. In the past I have worked many times with the school in supporting RE lessons as well as mentoring students.

Using my position, I have been passionately involved in promoting educational attainment in the communities I have worked. I have a good knowledge and experience of the educational environment within primary and secondary schools.

My children are doing very well at The Derby High School and I take an active interest in their education. I wish to be part of the great work that is being undertaken at the school to prepare young minds for a bright future.

I believe I can utilise my skills and knowledge to help implement the school's mission. I am a local faith leader, who possesses extensive experience of working with government departments and from the same background, would provide a great point of contact and support for the school.



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Mr Kamran Beg

I am a family man and Bury resident and was born in the town. I currently work in a senior role within the NHS and have significant experience across a number of clinical and non-clinical areas.

Pertinent to the role of school governor I have well developed skills in training delivery and design, stakeholder engagement, equality and diversity and service transformation. I believe these skills are relevant and transferable to the role of school governor. I have also worked in a similar role as a critical friend with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). I enjoy working collaboratively and have strong communication and organisational skills.

I am keen to work with the school to make a positive difference.

Mrs Danielle Morris

My name is Danielle Morris and my son is in Year 7. Although I have no experience of school governance specifically I am very keen to get to know the school better and help the school continue to improve and develop. My day job is a solicitor and I believe that I have many skills which will transfer well to the work of school governance, ensuring an independence to attain the vision, ethos and direction of the school whilst considering the important role of the staff in developing our children.

I am lucky enough to have the time to commit to a demanding volunteer role as I work part time and the firm I work at have stated that they will be flexible to work around the needs and requirements of this role. This means that I am able to attend meetings, governor training and visit the school during the day.

I am particularly keen to ensure that all children have the opportunity to fulfil their full potential whatever their background, special educational needs or disabilities.

I am not afraid to ask difficult questions if necessary on behalf of all the children this school serves. I am also keen to support the school and all of its dedicated staff who work so hard to keep this place running smoothly. I believe the work carried out during the pandemic only proves the commitment that the staff have to our children and their education.



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