



THE PRIORY ACADEMY
LSST

Friday 12th February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we come to the end of another unprecedented six-week module and near the half-way point of the academic year I wish to take this opportunity to both congratulate your children and sincerely thank you, our parents and carers. Your children have fully upheld and demonstrated our five values over the course of this term. They have aspired to achieve their very best with the systems available to them; they have been inspirational to one another and their teachers; they have shown respect (even some asking to go to be excused to leave a live lesson at home to use the toilet), while resilient and innovative children have been in abundance as we all come to terms with the world of learning though the screen. As always, you, our parents and carers, while juggling both work and home schooling have continued to go the extra mile; we sincerely thank you for your patience and words of support and thanks over the past few weeks. It has meant such a lot to all of our staff here at the Priory Academy LSST.

Enrichment

It has been great to see our students continue to participate in House Events despite lockdown. In fact, we have seen more participation than in a normal module! Students have enjoyed numerous events such as 'Four Fours', 'The Big Garden Bird Watch', 'Snowman Competition', 'House Countdown' and perhaps the one the Enrichment Team have most enjoyed, 'Feel Good Stories and Tales of Good Deeds'. The entries for the latter competition really did warm the hearts of the Enrichment Team. It was great to read such stories and we look forward to sharing some of these in the future. Overall, Alexandria continue to lead the house standings, but Avalon are not far behind!

Assessment

In common with all other Priory Federation Academies, due to the present situation nationally regarding assessment in the summer of 2021, we are not issuing attainment grades for students following GCSE, A Level or other Level 3 courses at the end of this module. We have included grades for students' Attitude to Learning to reflect how they are working this year up to this point. Hopefully, in the near future, Ofqual will clarify the processes for 2021 which will allow us to move forward with more certainty. In the meantime, it is vitally important that students continue to complete all the work set by their teachers for all courses and continue to improve further by responding to the feedback teachers are regularly offering.

Consent - Testing

Many thanks to parents/carers and students who have already completed the consent form for Covid-19 testing. As we prepare for the return of students to the Academy and anticipate that all students will be offered the opportunity to have two Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests upon their return to the classroom, please could we remind parents/carers to complete a consent form for your child to participate in testing. If you are happy for your child to be tested for Covid-19, please can you complete the consent statement online (one per student) using [this link](#). Paper copies of the consent form are available from the academy reception.

Headteacher: Mrs J Hopkinson

The Priory Academy LSST, Cross O' Cliff Hill, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN5 8PW

Tel: 01522 889977 **Email:** generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk **www.priorylsst.co.uk**

The Priory Academy LSST is part of The Priory Federation of Academies Trust. For further information please contact:

The Priory Federation of Academies Trust, Cross O'Cliff Hill, Lincoln LN5 8PW **Telephone:** 01522 889977

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Sixth Form students are able to give consent themselves so please pass the consent form onto your child if they are in the Sixth Form and you wish for them to complete it themselves. We are not able to test students if we have not received a consent form either electronically or on paper from them on the day of testing.

My sincere thanks to all those parents and carers who have offered their time to support us with the testing programme. Your support has been invaluable. We are always welcoming of any help we can receive so if you are able to volunteer to help us with the testing programme please do contact us at:

lsstcovidattendance@prioryacademies.co.uk

Track and Trace

Further to guidance received from the DFE, we can confirm that if students or staff who have been in the Academy develop symptoms of Covid 19 on or before Sunday 14th February 2021 and test positive following these symptoms or have a test on or before Sunday 14th February if they are asymptomatic, the Academy will support in tracing close contacts and informing families where other children need to isolate. If this is the case, we ask that you email the Academy using the following email address: generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk. Please include in the email your child's details along with the date on which they started to show symptoms, the date of the test and positive outcome. We will then take the necessary steps to identify and inform any close contacts. Close contacts will receive an Intouch message with the required dates of isolation.

Based on the latest government advice, we know the current situation in which we find ourselves will continue until 8th March 2021. However, as we are likely to be told of any changes two weeks prior to this we would hope to update you following any government announcements during the first week of the next module.

In a term where we lost a true inspirational hero in Captain Sir Tom Moore, I listened again to the first few lines of his favourite song; 'You'll Never Walk Alone'. "When you walk through a storm, hold your head up high and don't be afraid of the dark. At the end of the storm, there is a golden sky and a sweet silver song of the lark." Poignant words reflecting many times in our lives and easily related I believe to the continuing hard work and phenomenal efforts over the past weeks and months from our young people, yourselves and our staff; we have not been afraid to adapt and learn new skills and with our heads held high, we have succeeded. We should be confident there will be a future that is bright.

Please do take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

Mrs J Hopkinson
Headteacher