



THE PRIORY ACADEMY
LSST

October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

It is hard to believe it has been eight weeks since we welcomed all our students back to the Academy in September. Although some weeks have seemed longer than others, time has still flown by. With so many logistical changes from previous years, I am pleased to report that all students, especially our Year 7 and Year 12 cohorts, have now fully settled into their new routines here at LSST and are taking every advantage of the opportunities available.

Last week saw our first virtual Parents' Evening for our Year 11 families. Although we approached the evening with some trepidation, we were delighted with its success. Thank you to those parents and carers who fed back their thoughts; overwhelmingly a positive experience for all.

All students will be issued with module grades at the end of this week. These will include a grade for 'Attitude to Learning' for all students, plus attainment grades for GCSE and A-level courses for Years 11 and 13. This information will also be available on the Parent App from Monday 26th October.

Please be aware that from 8am on Saturday 24th October until midnight on Sunday 25th October, many of our IT systems will be down due to an essential upgrade. This means there will be no access to Citrix for staff and students. However, emails will still be accessible from the Home Gateway section of our Academy website.

On Friday 9th October, it was great to see so many of our students wearing yellow to show their support for Mental Health Day. Over £600 was raised to support Young Minds. Next module, we look forward to supporting the Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal, Food Bank, Children in Need and, through the sale of poppies, the Royal British Legion.

In a change to normal term-time procedures, please could we ask you to email generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk should your child test positive for Covid-19 over half-term, rather than your child's Pastoral Learning Mentor or Head of Year. Following receipt of your email, you will be contacted by a senior member of staff and they will take further details.

Thank you for your ongoing support with maintaining our high standards of uniform across the Academy. We appreciate that there were issues with both increased demand and deliveries at the start of the academic year, which resulted in some students not having all the necessary items. We have been in regular communication with Uniform Direct and they have explained that their stock levels are now replenished and previous orders have been fulfilled. This should mean that all items of uniform are now in stock and orders can be placed for anything that sells out, with deliveries taking place within the regular timeframes. Items of uniform can also be purchased

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

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from other retailers but please check they are in line with our uniform requirements. With the supply issues now resolved, we expect that from the start of Module 2 all uniform should be in line with our uniform code. The full uniform list for Years 7-11 and for Sixth Form is available here:

<https://www.priorylsst.co.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=51>

In addition, we would like to emphasise the following to ensure uniform is correct:

- PE Kit
 - As per the letter at the start of the year, in Module 2 students will continue to attend the Academy in their full PE kit on days when they have PE.
 - Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 must wear the full Academy PE kit, which can include: navy pro running leggings with LSST logo; navy slim leg track pant with LSST logo; navy/white bespoke crew neck top with LSST logo; navy/purple hoodie with LSST Logo. Alternative tracksuits or long-sleeved tops cannot be worn.
 - Students in Years 10 and 11 can wear the new PE kit items that must be worn by Years 7-9. If they do not have these, it is not compulsory to purchase these items. Instead, students must wear plain long navy sporting bottoms, their PE T-shirt and a plain navy hoodie or jumper. Other colours and large logos are not to be worn.
 - Plain navy blue or black coats can be worn with PE kits, but we ask that blazers are not worn with PE kit.
 - As the weather grows colder, students may choose to wear skins or other base layers under their PE kit, but these should not be seen. If they are visible, they must be navy blue.
 - Students who study GCSE and A-level Dance should wear the following when they have practical lessons:
 - Year 9 - PE kit
 - Year 10 - PE kit
 - Year 11- different due to the nature of their examination work
 - Black gym leggings
 - PE top (GCSE top - white or normal PE top)
 - PE hoodies or navy blue zipped hoodies - the Academy logo should be seen at all times
 - Trainers
 - Year 12/13
 - Black gym leggings or joggers
 - A navy T-shirt with 'Priory Drama' print
 - Hoodies with the Academy logo or dark-coloured hoodies
 - Trainers
- Piercings – A single pair of plain studs, plain gold or silver only. These should be worn on the lower lobe of each ear (only one stud per ear). No other piercings are permitted.
- Trousers should be straight, classic style – no stretch fabrics or skinny fit trousers and long enough to meet the top of the shoe.
- Coats should be plain navy blue or black. Fur trim on hoods is not permitted.
- Sixth Form – please pay careful attention to the requirements in the Sixth Form dress code on the link above and ensure attire is suitable for a smart office environment. No facial piercings are permitted.

If there are any issues in sourcing the correct uniform, please contact your child's Pastoral Learning Mentor or Head of Year to discuss how we can help resolve the issue.

As the nights draw in and the weather becomes worse, please support us in stressing to students the importance of taking great care and acting sensibly as they travel to and from the Academy. We urge cyclists to pay careful attention on the roads, always to wear helmets, wear high visibility or reflective clothing (reflective strips on coats are allowed and high visibility clothing can be worn on the way to and from the Academy) and to ensure there are working lights and reflectors on bicycles. While we recognise that the majority of young people cycle responsibly,

we do receive reports from parents and members of the public about some of our students being quite reckless as they are travelling to and from the Academy, putting themselves and other road users at risk of injury. We continue to deliver messages around road safety to students during form time and really appreciate these messages being reiterated at home to help keep our students safe. We also ask that, when dropping students off or collecting them from the Academy, parents park responsibly and with consideration for local residents. If you are picking up/dropping off students at the Sixth Form side of the Academy, please be reminded that this can only be accessed via Urban Street. The area at the top of Clayton Road leading to the staff car park must not be used for picking up or dropping off students. Cadent requires 24-hour access to this area and have some large vehicles which use these gates. The company has reported on a few occasions over the last couple of weeks that there have nearly been collisions with cars parked in this area and is very worried about a possible accident, so please keep this area clear.

As part of the continued response to the needs of young people around their mental health and wellbeing, we have been made aware of a Level 2 accredited and fully funded course for adults on understanding mental health in young people, which the provider has asked us to share with our parents. More details and information on signing up for the course are available on the following link:

<https://theaimgroup.co.uk/courses/details/6>

Despite the challenges of this term and the restrictions imposed on our usual curricular life, we continue to deliver good and outstanding lessons. As a reminder, to extend further the learning provision for our students, staff continue to upload lessons to their pages on SharePoint. This is particularly valuable for anyone who has been absent, and is also useful for those students who wish to consolidate their learning. In order to find a lesson, students simply need to navigate to an individual teacher's page and follow the instructions within the header.

When half-term arrives, I would like to wish all our students an enjoyable and safe time away from the Academy. I look forward to welcoming them back on Monday 2nd November 2020.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jane Hopkinson
Headteacher