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# Blackminster Middle School

## School Bulletin

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Dear parents and carers,

As we're now into the second week of the summer term, I have a few updates to share with you.

### **COVID testing**

Thank you to all parents and carers and Key Stage 3 students who are testing twice-weekly for COVID-19 in order to identify asymptomatic cases and prevent the spread of the virus. The Prime Minister sent a message to school leaders last week saying "I want to thank everybody for continuing to follow the guidance, and to thank parents and families for the incredible work you're doing to help test pupils through the Easter holidays and to encourage you to keep testing them twice a week as schools return."

I'd also encourage parents and carers of children in all years to consider testing themselves too – test kits can be obtained for free. More information is available from <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

### **Keeping safe in school**

The Government intend to review current expectations on schools as part of the next step of lifting restrictions. Until then we are asking children in all year groups to continue to wear face coverings in school where distancing can't be maintained. We hope that this requirement will lift on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Uniform**

We appreciate that the last few months have been difficult as many shops have been closed. However, as school returns to slightly more normal we'd like to remind students and families about our uniform expectations. They can be found on our website, <https://www.blackminster.worcs.sch.uk/uniform/> but in particular please can I stress

- 1) Shoes should be plain black
- 2) Hair should be tied back if it's shoulder-length or longer

3) Fake nails should not be worn, and any nail varnish or make-up should be subtle.

We will provide hair ties and nail varnish remover in school if necessary.

### **Equipment**

Students need to bring their own basic equipment each day. This means a blue or black pen, a pencil (with a sharpener if possible), a rubber and a ruler. It would also be helpful for students to have a glue stick, a green pen and a highlighter.

### **Message from Phil Jones, Chair of Governors**

*Thank you to all parents and carers who have returned the survey to give views and opinions about the future for the schools in the federation. This information will be collated and shared, (without names), with governors for the purpose of informing planning.*

*Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey*

### **Ofsted Parent View**

Ofsted have a survey that they ask parents and carers to complete to give their views on their child's school. If you would like to feed back to them on how Blackminster is doing, please follow this link

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

### **Thank you!**

Thank you again to our wonderful parents and carers for all the support you give to the staff and students here at Blackminster, through these last few challenging months in particular. Your support and the many messages we receive are appreciated more than I can explain.

Kind regards,

Linda McQuone



Acting Executive Headteacher