



Morton Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

RMCG/KRE

21st October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of our first half term I continue to be proud of how our students have resettled back into school life following the last few years of disruption. I'm particularly proud of our new Year 7 cohort who are bringing lots of energy and enthusiasm to the academy and are already making their mark on their new school. I hope you were able to see our Facebook post about our Hogwarts style House Sorting event with a brilliant poem written by Peyton Richards in Year 7, I was so impressed with the effort and quality of her work. Please find a series of updates for the next half term in this letter.

House Shield Competition Winner

As you'll know we have launched a new rewards system this term based on our new House System. Our first major House Competition was to design the shields for each of our new Houses: Luguvalium, Valentia and Hadrian. I am delighted to announce that Libby Baxter in Year 9 was the winner from the Morton Academy site and her design will be transformed by a professional design company into our new shields in the coming weeks. Well done Libby – we are all very proud of you! As the points currently stand Valentia House are winning the House Competition, but it is very close:

1st: Valentia (1,180)

2nd: Hadrian (1,086)

3rd: Luguvalium (1,058)

Uniform

We are now in a position where all remaining uniform issues should be resolved. In the main boys' uniform is in line with our expectations. Unfortunately there are still some issues with skirt lengths and appropriate trousers for female students. It would be very helpful if parents who have been contacted can resolve these issues during half term. We want our students to arrive happily to school in the morning moving straight to lessons rather than having to have conversations about uniform. If you require support please do get in touch with your child's Head of Year.

Christmas Holidays

Due to an extra Bank Holiday being placed on the calendar schools have been asked to place an additional closing day on our calendars. The academy will be joining all other local schools by ending this term on Thursday 16th December with the holidays beginning on Friday 17th December.

Covid Testing

Thank you all for your persistence with the Lateral Flow Testing. Our advice is for students to continue to do this twice a week for the foreseeable future. The academy has had a few cases since our return and we cannot be complacent about the status of the virus. Just as a reminder the current guidance from local public health leaders is below:

Children and young people between the ages of 5 and 18+6 months

- Young people aged between 5 - 18+6 months (unless exempt – see below), are advised to stay at home if anyone in their household tests positive for COVID-19 (via either a PCR or Lateral Flow test).

Richard Rose Morton Academy, Wigton Road, Carlisle CA2 6LB

t 01228 822644 • e info@rrma.org.uk • www.rrma.org.uk

Richard Rose Morton Academy is part of United Learning. United Learning comprises: UCST (Registered in England No: 2780748. Charity No. 1016538) and ULT (Registered in England No. 4439859. An Exempt Charity). Companies limited by guarantee. VAT number 834 8515 12. Registered address: United Learning, Worldwide House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, PE3 6SB.





Morton Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

- Five days after symptoms began in the household contact who tested positive (or test date if the positive case had no symptoms), the young person should get a PCR test.
- If the PCR is negative, they can return to their school, but should isolate again immediately and get another test if they develop symptoms of COVID-19 later.

OR

- Instead of isolating for the five days, children and young people who are contacts of household positive cases can take a Lateral Flow Test each morning and if negative, attend school the same day (rather than staying at home). This is an option for both primary and secondary school children.
- If they develop symptoms of COVID-19, or receive a positive Lateral Flow test result, they should immediately isolate and get a PCR test.

The groups exempt from this advice (meaning they can attend school as normal) are:

- Any child or young person who has had at least one dose of the vaccine more than 14 days ago.
- Any child or young person who has tested positive for COVID-19 themselves via a PCR test within the past 90 days.

Year 11 Breakfast Club

Well done to our Year 11 students who have attended independent revisions sessions from 8am all week. This will also continue for one week after half term before they begin their mock exams on the week beginning 8th November. Year 11s have also been attending a one hour careers advice session with staff from INSPIRA. We are aware that there were some issues with the Year 11 Parents' Evening software, we are taking steps to address this and do apologise if parents had issues meeting with staff. Please do get in contact if you would like to arrange an alternative meeting.

Extra-Curricular Activities

It has been lovely to see students accessing our co-curriculum clubs. I was lucky enough to witness the Music Club performing 'Let it Be' a few weeks ago, it was great to see students enjoying themselves and being brave. We have also had a number of student groups go on our Forest Schools Trips. Our football teams have been competing again and I attended a great Year 11 performance of Abigail's Party this week as the group prepare for their assessments. There are a number of trips and events planned for the next half term beginning with an Animal Care trip to Walby Farm Park on our first day back.

I hope all students and their families have a restful half term break. The academy will re-open to all students on Monday 1st November at 8.35am. Thank you all for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely

Richard McGuire
Executive Principal

Richard Rose Morton Academy, Wigton Road, Carlisle CA2 6LB
t 01228 822644 • e info@rrma.org.uk • www.rrma.org.uk

Richard Rose Morton Academy is part of United Learning. United Learning comprises: UCST (Registered in England No: 2780748. Charity No. 1016538) and ULT (Registered in England No. 4439859. An Exempt Charity). Companies limited by guarantee. VAT number 834 8515 12. Registered address: United Learning, Worldwide House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, PE3 6SB.

