

Friday 17th September

Dear Parent/ carer,

Thank you to all the parents who attended our parent's forums this week. We want to share as much information as possible and really have open communication.

We will do more parents forums throughout the year. In the meantime I would urge you to contact us if you have any concerns or worries. This can be done via your child's tutor, head of year or using the office email address: tsla.office@thestleonardsacademy.org.uk

The priority at the start of the year has been to focus on routines and the return to normality after the lifting of COVID restrictions. These are so important in schools. After the disruption our students have faced the time learning is the main priority. We have launched a new behaviour system that will ensure high expectations in the classroom.

We are also delighted that we are able to re- launch enrichment activities and clubs. During the year staff will return to planning the trips and visits that are such an important part of the curriculum.

From the forums the following areas were discussed

- Lunchtimes – I have been asked to look into service at lunchtimes as some parents felt that the queueing was too long to get food in the time. Also seating for students. We will resolve any issues and feedback
- Year 11 – Extra sessions to support year 11 will start shortly. The focus at the moment is very much on settling back into the routines of school and working in lessons
- Clubs – We are excited about re launching clubs and enrichment at St Leonards Academy. Our amazing PE department has got these underway. The brilliant performing arts team have also launched this years band and performance. We write out shortly with other clubs in other subject areas.
- Communication – We will conduct parent's forums throughout the year. There will also be a return to parent's evenings and all students will get reports during the year. All students have a tutor and head of year as points of contact.
- Homework and Classcharts – We will be writing out over the next few weeks about homework and parents use of Classcharts. We will also run some drop in sessions about using Classcharts. The rewards store is also in the process of getting re stocked.

The Government has announced that people aged 12 to 15 in England will be offered one dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, following advice from the four UK Chief Medical Officers (CMOs).

- The government has accepted the advice of the four UK CMOs and the NHS is preparing to deliver a schools-based vaccination programme, which is the successful model used for vaccinations including for HPV and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (DTP), supported by GPs and community pharmacies. Invitations for vaccination will begin next week.

- In Sussex, plans have been developed to run vaccination sessions in schools and over the next six weeks each school will be offered a visit to provide the vaccination for 12 to 15 year old students. Parental, guardian or carer consent will be sought by vaccination healthcare staff prior to vaccination in line with existing school vaccination programmes.
- We will write out to every parent, guardian or carer with the details of this session for our school, the consent process, and next steps when we have them from healthcare authorities.
- In the meantime, we recognise that you may have questions – please visit <https://www.sussexhealthandcare.uk/keepsussexsafe/sussex-covid-19-vaccination-programme> for the latest information.

Yours faithfully



Mr J Francies
Lead Principal



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