



Discovery Special Academy Newsletter summer 1b 2021

Contact tracing

Over half term, senior staff across the trust will be available to respond to incidents of confirmed positive COVID19 cases **until 3pm on Monday 31st May**.

- Up until this date, you only need to inform the academy of a positive case where symptoms occur within 48 hours of the confirmed case being on the academy site (Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th May)
- In these cases, senior leaders will then contact close cases and advise them to self-isolate.
- Senior leaders will not need to be available for contact tracing duties beyond **Tuesday 1st June**
- Therefore, from 3pm on Monday 31st May, all cases should be dealt with through the NHS Test and Trace system as it will not affect any other pupils or school staff.
- Where a staff member or pupil develops symptoms more than 48 hours after being on the academy site, the academy does not need to be contacted (e.g. symptoms start on Monday 31st May).

Parents should follow contact tracing by using the following academy email address:

enquiries@discoveryspecialacademy.org.uk

The above email address will be monitored up until 3pm on Monday 31st May and then from 3pm on Sunday 6th June.

These emails will be checked on Sunday 6th June in preparation for the beginning of term or you can contact the academy from 8am on Monday 7th June.

Please remember, if your child is unwell and has any potential symptoms of COVID, or has been with someone who has tested positive, please keep them off school until they have been tested or completed isolation.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support during this time

Minibus



We have enjoyed our first trips out on the new minibus. This was an incredibly exciting moment and will mean the children can now start to enjoy more regular trips out of the academy. This also helps reduce the cost of trips to families. Look out for more galleries on the website to see where we have been!

Physical development new bikes

The children have been enjoying riding our new bikes this half term. This helps us to develop our physical coordination and keeps us fit and healthy. We have more bikes coming soon.



Eid and Holi Celebrations





Inclusion Quality Mark



We are very pleased to announce that Discovery Special Academy has just been awarded Centre of Excellence status by the Inclusion Quality Mark.

A huge thank you to all children, staff and the wider community who have made this possible through their hard work and commitment. The assessor commented on the sense of pride everyone has at the academy about the work that we do here. All staff are committed and focused on equity and inclusive practice, and relationships are extremely strong. One of our favourite comments from the report is:

‘The school’s commitment to their pupils is well expressed and captured in the quote from Rita F Pierson: “every child deserves a champion, an adult that will never give up on them” and is echoed in their daily attitude and practice.’

Well done to the whole Discovery community – an amazing achievement.

Staffing

We have said goodbye to Nicola Noel and Tracy Hanger this week.

Nicola’s has gone to work in another special school closer to home and we know she will do a fabulous job and wish her all the very best.

Tracy is moving to a promoted post within the trust at Pennyman Primary Academy and will continue to work closely with us as a senior leader in the Tees Valley SEND provision.

We are very please to be welcoming to the team Laraib Khan and Bethany Chandler. They will both start as level three teaching assistants.

Laraib will be working in Michelle’s class and Beth will be working in the early years.

Congratulations to Michelle South who will be working as our higher level teaching assistant in the early years alongside Becky and the rest of the team after half term.