

MADANI SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Honesty | Excellence | Accountability | Respect | Teamwork



December 2021 | Jumada al-Ula 1443 AH

Assalamu 'Alaikum Wr Wbr (May His Peace, Mercy and Blessings be Upon You)



Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

I pray you are well and in good health during the winter break.



I write to you in anticipation of any further information from the Government/ DfE with a number of updates (Covid 19 arrangements and return to school, parking/ dropping or collecting students, school timings and key dates) in advance of the new term. Given the amount of detail, please take your time to read through the information and guidance included in the letter.

There have sadly been several bereavements linked to our schools in recent weeks and this remains for many a time of sadness, challenge, and adversity for some in the Madani learning community, locally and nationally. We pray for them and remember them in our thoughts and prayers to The Almighty SWT. One recent bereavement includes the passing of a retired member of staff Mr Richard Cousins, who was pivotal in the foundational years of the schools working tirelessly. Our sincere condolences go to his family on behalf of the Federation, past/ present staff and students. At their request, in the new year, we will be highlighting and fundraising for HeadSmart UK, the world's leading brain tumour charity.



Recent times and sad news such as the above reaffirms our commitment as staff to protect and support your children and families, and to have a real impact on their life chances and the educational experiences of our students.



Parking/ Student drop off and collection

As mentioned in previous letters, you are strongly encouraged to advise your child to 'active travel' by walking or cycling to school. Walking and cycling are free and easy ways to stay fit and healthy and reduce traffic (and congregating) at the school gates. If you must travel to school by car, please try and find a safe and suitable location to get dropped off a short walk away from the school.



We recently had a student involved in a car accident before the end of last term. Incidents like this can be avoided by minimising car use near the school, on kerb parking which restricts visibility for students and pedestrians and strictly avoiding dropping off students in the middle of the road – this is both dangerous and unfair on other drivers.



Lastly, we have received complaints from residents who have had their driveways blocked that the school and local authority have been made aware of – you will be aware that this is not in line with our school ethos and falls well below the expectations of the school from our learning community. Please assist us in keeping our children safe and healthy.



Half Term 3 School Timings

Please note the timings below for Half term 3. This commences from Wednesday 5th January 2022 up to and including Friday 11th February 2022. Given the number of salaah prayers required in the short amount of time after Zawal, the close proximity of Asar beginning time and with limited ablution facilities, students will attend each weekly Friday lesson 5 online. Students are expected to complete their salaah in their local Masjid (*see sample timings below) and plan accordingly. Students eligible for packed lunch will collect them during break time from an allocated area.



Executive Headteacher Mr Riyaz Laher | Deputy Head Mr R Maghrabi | Deputy Head Mr N Khan | Business Manager Ms N Radford

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Madani Schools Federation, Evington Valley Road, Leicester LE5 5LL

School Timings Half Term 3 2022 (Until and including February 11th)

MBS (Mondays - Thursdays)	MGS (Mondays - Thursdays)	MSF FRIDAYS/ JUMUAH (Fridays upto & including February 11th)
8.15 AM Registration	8.15 AM Registration	8.15 AM Registration
8.20 Lesson 1	8.20 Lesson 1	8.20 Lesson 1
9.20 Lesson 2	9.20 Lesson 2	9.20 Lesson 2
10.20 Break	10.20 Break	10.20 Break
10.40 Lesson 3	10.40 Lesson 3	10.40 Lesson 3
11.40 Lesson 4	11.40 Lunch A (Reg 12.10)	11.40 Lesson 4
	12.00 Lunch B (Reg 11.40)	
12.40 Salah/ Reflection	12.30 Lesson 4	12.40 Registration
13.05 Lunch A (Reg 13.35)		12.45 MBS School day end
13.25 Lunch B (Reg 13.05)	13.30 Salah/ Reflection	13.00 MGS School day end
13.55 Lesson 5	13.55 Lesson 5	13.45 Lesson 5 (Remote)
14.55 School Day End	14.55 School Day End	14.55 School Day End
15.00 Lesson 6 Enrichment/ Intervention	15.00 Lesson 6 Enrichment/ Intervention	In school day end times have been staggered for H&S purposes at local peak time

Covid-19 | Reopening Guidance (January 2022)

In line with national Government guidance all schools have been requested to undertake 'Lateral Flow Device' tests in schools, for every consenting secondary school student to ensure they have a negative result at the beginning of the Spring term in January 2022. The Department for Education has brought in the move in a bid to reduce the risk of transmission among children and to keep schools open while Covid cases continue to rise.

The government have advised that schools should 'stagger the return to school for the first week to accommodate on-site testing' and 'have the flexibility to consider how best to deliver the one test on return according to our circumstances' (DfE). We are therefore planning a staggered reopening to accommodate all students as detailed in the table. If you remain unsure, please contact the school for clarification.

Facilitating Lateral Flow Testing and setting up an asymptomatic test site is a huge undertaking due to the preparation and planning required, particularly at such short notice. However, we are keen to minimise any disruption to our students, so staff are currently and will continue to work hard to ensure we are ready in advance of the start of term.

January 2022 Attendance / Testing Days								
Day	Bank Holiday Monday	Teacher Training Day Tuesday	WED	THU	FRI	SUN	MON	TUE
Date	03/01/2022	04/01/2022	05/01/2022	06/01/2022	07/01/2022	09/01/2022	10/01/2022	11/01/2022
Staff		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
7	⊗	⊗	☞	✓	✓		✓	✓
8	⊗	⊗	☞	☞	✓		✓	✓
9	⊗	⊗	☞	✓	✓		✓	✓
10	⊗	⊗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
11	⊗	⊗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

	Advised Home Testing Day - Testing kits provided
☞	Remote learning via TEAMS online assignments
✓	School Testing day Return to school day
✓	In school attendance required

Online Home Learning

All subjects have added online learning tasks via Assignments for your child to complete whilst they prepare for their allocated first day of in-school attendance. These are available via your child's TEAMS account. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are expected to record their attendance to online learning via:

Madani Boys School: <https://bit.ly/MBS-Student-Registration>

Madani Girls School: <https://bit.ly/MGS-Student-Registration>

Lateral Flow Testing

The Lateral Flow Test is self-administered by the student, although as always, our staff will be on hand to help, and advise students. The Lateral Flow Test is simple and brief, and is of a similar type of test, as your child will have been doing at home with the Lateral Flow Test kits supplied by school.

Only one Lateral Flow Test will be undertaken, and students will go back to class as normal, as they await their result. Please note that you may be called upon to pick up your child from school if they test positive.

Taking part in testing is voluntary and students will be able to attend school whether they take part in Lateral Testing or not. The school are required to offer the opportunity to all students through the provision of Home Self-test kits.

Consent

We need consent for testing any student under 16 years old, from someone with parental responsibility. This has been requested before, when we have previously been instructed by the government to test in school, both in December 2020 and again in August 2021. If you wish to provide consent for Lateral Flow Testing, please register your consent via <https://bit.ly/MSF-LFT-Consent> by 9.00am on Monday 3rd January 2022.

If you have previously given consent and we do not hear from you, we will assume the consent given before still stands. If you have changed your mind and now want to refuse consent, please email covid@madani.leicester.sch.uk by 9.00am on Monday 3rd January 2022.

Please note that if you have not given your consent but your child is considered Gillick competent and requests Lateral Flow Testing, a self-test kit will be provided for self-testing.

Government research indicates that in the community up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms – these are called 'asymptomatic cases'. To reduce the further spread of the virus and protect our community, we need to identify those who may be 'asymptomatic'.

It has been narrated that:

“The Muslim is the one from whose tongue and hand the people are safe, and the believer is the one from whom the people’s lives and wealth are safe.” (Sunan an-Nasa’i)

Our faith teaches us that we must consider others as well as ourselves and our own families; therefore, all students and families are encouraged to take part. We can support our community by continuing to test at home.

Winter Break Lateral Flow testing

Home Self-Test Kits were provided to all students on Wednesday 15th December 2021. Please continue to self-test twice a week (Wednesday & Sunday) in accordance with the Self-test schedule provided, and importantly report those test results, twice-weekly via <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. If you wish to order additional Lateral Flow Test kits, please follow the link: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

To further support the safety of our return, please test your child at home on the evening before or morning of their return to school.

Winter Break/ In School Vaccinations

Young people aged 12-15 who haven't yet had their COVID-19 vaccine are invited by the NHS to visit a number vaccination clinics available locally. On Monday 27th January the NHS will offer both the COVID-19 and flu vaccines on the same day at the school. The school's vaccination session will be carried out by our partner GP surgeries and community pharmacists.

we're here to learn

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In-school Arrangements

Our in-school arrangements currently remain unchanged with the following expectations:

- Unless medically exempt, students and staff must wear a Face covering in communal areas, students must display their exemption I.D. Students should have their own face coverings to avoid unnecessary wastage. Only if required will face coverings be provided at all entrances
- Students and staff regularly use Hand Sanitiser. Hand Sanitiser is provided in all entrances, classrooms, dining halls and the masjid
- All classrooms and communal areas remain well ventilated. Students may wear existing standard school uniform grey v-neck jumpers, but we are not encouraging new purchases/ cost. Students are advised to wear thermal clothing, or jumpers under their uniform to keep them warm during the winter months and in ventilated classes.
- Students must still wear the rest of their full uniform including blazers and shoes as detailed in student planners. Coats in class will be at the discretion of the teacher in ventilated classrooms
- In-line with Government guidance, all students are regularly provided with a Home self-test kit
- Students & staff self-test twice a week (Wednesday & Sunday) in accordance with the Self-test schedule
- All students and staff who test positive must self-isolate straight away and follow Government stay-at-home guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/>
- Families and staff liaise with NHS Test and Trace to identify close contacts

Please note that from January 2022 the school will be limiting visitors, to essential visitors only, Parents/carers may find that they will be kindly requested to remain at the Front Gate rather than into the reception area to limit numbers.

Other support

We can also offer / signpost students and families to other available support in this time of need i.e., bereavement, spiritual, financial, Early Help. For further information contact: help@madani.leicester.sch.uk

If your child (Year's 7/8/9) is eligible for Free School Meals, and you wish them to have a meal on the days they are Online Home Learning, please complete the form via <https://bit.ly/MSF-FSM>

Important Links		
Registration	Madani Boys School	https://bit.ly/MBS-Student-Registration
	Madani Girls School	https://bit.ly/MGS-Student-Registration
Consent	Providing	https://bit.ly/MSF-LFT-Consent
	Revoke	covid@madani.leicester.sch.uk
Report	Lateral Flow test results	https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result
Order	Additional Lateral Flow test kits	https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests
Vaccinations	Winter Break	https://bit.ly/NHS-12-15yo-Vax
Guidance	Government stay-at-home	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/
Request	Support	help@madani.leicester.sch.uk
	Free School Meals	https://bit.ly/MSF-FSM
	Further information	studentservices@madani.leicester.sch.uk 0116 249 8080

If you have any questions or concerns or require any further information about in-school testing, school timings, student drop off/ collection, TEAMS Remote learning support, or any other information contained in this letter or otherwise, please use the contacts above or contact Student Services.

For specific or technical information related to Covid Management please request our Covid-19 Officers Mr Maghrabi (Deputy Headteacher) / Ms Radford (Business Manager) who will get back to you.

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Why do secondary school students need to test on-site when they return after the winter break?

The Government wants every local authority-maintained secondary school, independent schools and academies to set up on-site testing. Testing on-site on return is seen as 'an effective way to reduce the risk of transmission in schools'. It also viewed by the Department for Education (DfE) as a means to 'support the continuation of face-to-face education, by identifying positive cases and isolating those that are the most contagious as soon as is practical'.

What happens if a parent/ carer is unable to collect a child who has tested positive?

If a student gets a positive test result during testing, they should avoid using public transport and, wherever possible, be collected by a member of their family or household. In exceptional circumstances, if parents or carers cannot arrange to have their child collected, if age-appropriate and safe to do so with parental consent, the child should walk or cycle home directly following a positive test result. If this is not possible, alternative arrangements may need to be organised by the school.

Will my child need more than one test?

Yes, all secondary school pupils should have a lateral flow self-test at home three days after their on-site test at school. After this, they are advised to continue to test in line with Government guidelines which, for most schools, is twice-weekly home testing. The school will continue to provide home testing kits.

Is testing compulsory?

No, but everyone is urged to take part. The DfE state that 'testing is voluntary, but staff, pupils and students are strongly encouraged to participate as testing regularly helps to reduce the spread in schools and colleges through asymptomatic transmission'. Staff, students, and students who decline to participate must still attend school.

We very much appreciate your support and understanding in what continues to certainly be unprecedented circumstances. JKK/ Shukran/ Thank you for your continued support in this matter. Our primary aim and supplication above all remains that every child, parent, carer and member of staff remain safe, healthy, happy and continue learning.

Please continue to make du'a for our learning community, all communities worldwide particularly our vulnerable and elderly inshaA' for The Almighty SWT's Divine Mercy – the school gates may be closed a little longer for some, but the Gates of Mercy remain open.

Wasalaam

Riyaz Laher

Executive Headteacher

Madani Schools' Federation

Madani Boys School | [Madani Girls School](#)

Half term 3 Key Dates

- Thursday 20th January 2022 - Year 11 Parent/ Carer Evening (SchoolCloud Online):
- Thursday 20th January 2022 - Year 11 Mock Results Day:
- Monday 27th January 2022 - NHS COVID-19 and flu vaccinations (In school)
- Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd February 2022 - UK Intermediate Maths Challenge – Year 9
- Tuesday 8th February 2022 - Safer Internet Day
- Thursday February 10th 2022 - Year 10 Parent/ Carer Evening (SchoolCloud Online)
- Week beginning Monday 14th February 2022 - Half Term break
- Week beginning Monday 14th February 2022 - Year 11 Mocks

Sample Friday/ *Jumua Khutbah Timings (Subject to change by local Masjid)

- Masjid Umar 13.00 (15 minutes after school end)
- Jame Masjid 13.10 (25 minutes after school end)
- Masjid Ali 13.15 (30 minutes after school end)
- Central Mosque 13.15 (30 minutes after school end)
- Baytul Ilm 13.05 (20 minutes after school end)