



The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form

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Dear Parent and Carer

Further Advice Concerning The Coronavirus Pandemic

I would like to pass on two pieces of recent government advice regarding keeping safe during the Covid-19 pandemic.

FRAUD WARNING

The DfE has warned that fraudsters are targeting parents of children eligible for free school meals. Families have received an email requesting their bank details, claiming this will enable their children to continue receiving meals through school closures amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The DfE have issued a notice, urging parents to delete the scam email immediately.

CHILDREN WITH ASTHMA

Asthma UK published the following shielding advice yesterday with some helpful clarification for parents / carers for children with chronic asthma:

"If you are, or your child is, taking:

- *Any biologic therapy, also called a mAb (Xolair/omalizumab, Nucala/mepolizumab, Cinqaero/reslizumab, Fasenra/benralizumab)*
- *Steroid tablets or liquid every day*
- *Antibiotic tablets or liquid for asthma every week (e.g. azithromycin)*
- *Tiotropium*
- *A combination inhaler that also contains a long-acting bronchodilator (e.g. Seretide, Fostair, Symbicort) at a high daily steroid dose*
- *An inhaler with a high daily steroid dose AND you are taking Montelukast*

Or, if:

- *You have been admitted to hospital for your asthma in the last 12 months*
- *You have ever been admitted to an intensive care unit for your asthma*

Then you should follow the shielding advice which is set out in very helpful detail, including how to register for extra services from the government."

Thank you again for your continued support and for keeping your children at home during these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely

Jan de Rijk
Head of School
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