

Principal: Mr T Johnson

Booth Lane South Weston Favell Northampton NN3 3EZ

> Tel: 01604 402121 Fax: 01604 400361

email: admin@westonfavellacademy.org



20th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

We are aware that we are in the holy month of Ramadan and appreciate that this is a significant and special time in the year for our Muslim students, staff and community. We fully support students during this time and would like to remind you that all students are expected to participate in all aspects of the curriculum and school life during Ramadan.

We know that many students will choose to 'fast' as part of this religious observance period and would ask that you speak to your child regarding their taking sensible action if necessary. We are understanding and acknowledge that fasting may make some aspects of the curriculum more challenging, and all staff are aware that they may have fasting students in their groups. We do, however, expect all students to take part to the best of their ability in all subjects, including PE.

The Association of School and College Leaders have consulted with Imams, Islamic scholars and Muslim Chaplains in the education sector and have advised that if the school notices signs of dehydration or exhaustion due to fasting, then your child should be advised to stop the fast immediately by drinking some water. Should we have a concern, the school will make every effort to contact parents and discuss the best course of action for their child. Please contact our Admin Team if there are any changes in terms of advice and guidance if your child takes any medication or is on a medical/health care plan during this time period.

As a school, we have a legal duty of care to all our students and if there are concerns about an individual student, we have an overriding safeguarding duty and will apply judgement and common sense on a case-by-case basis.

Some practical steps the school will take:

- First aid and teaching staff will be made aware of the need to ask students if they are fasting if they show signs of physical distress and to advise them to break the fast if their health is at risk.
- All staff will be informed about Ramadan and this special period.
- PE staff will expect all students to participate but will be especially vigilant for the signs of exhaustion or dehydration and they have a policy of modifying activities to enable participation as much as possible.
- Any student eligible for free school meals will be offered the opportunity to collect a food bag that they
 can take home and eat later, as an alternative to the standard free school lunch.
- A prayer room will be allocated to students during these times 1-1.30pm Year 10 and 11. 1.30-2pm Year 7, 8 and 9. Sixth Form students can use prayer room during 1-2pm full details of the room location will be communicated to students who are registered via the MS form.

If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to email me on npatel@westonfavellacademy.org.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Patel Assistant Principal

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