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As a matter of phrases

As a matter of urgency /priority

If you do something as a matter of urgency or priority, you do it as soon as possible, because it is important.

- You need to talk about it with your doctor as a matter of urgency.
- Alternatives to imprisonment should be sought as a matter of priority.

As a matter of fact

- 1) used to add something more to what you have just said:
- The shoes are still stylish, and as a matter of fact, I'm wearing a pair right now.
- 2) used when you are going to disagree with or correct what has just been said
- 'Was he in a bad mood?' 'No, as a matter of fact, he seemed quite cheerful.'

As a matter of course

If you do something as a matter of course, you do it as part of your normal work or way of life.

- Safety precautions are observed as a matter of course.
- If police are carrying arms as a matter of course then doesn't it encourage criminals to carry them?

As a matter of principle

If you do something as a matter of principle, you do it because you believe it is the only right way.

• As a matter of principle, I don't pay for my children's education after the age of 23