



16 December 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we reach the end of this long term I wanted to write to thank you for all of your support and to outline our plans for the start of term. I am also able to now publish the term dates for 2022-2023.

We have certainly seen a term of contrasts. On the one hand, the school has been full of life, vibrancy and fantastic educational opportunity. Our dedicated staff team have worked so hard (teachers and our superb support team) to ensure that we deliver excellence and opportunity in the classroom and beyond. You can read more about the life of the school in our regular publication **The Pulse** which is published today and can be found [here](#).

On the other hand, as you are only too aware, we have faced increasing pressures due to Covid-related staff and student absence and, indeed, growing concern as the Omicron variant starts to take hold. We all hope and pray that January sees an improvement, but regardless, we will always strive to deliver the highest possible quality of education and care for our students in whatever form that takes.

Covid testing of students on their return in January 2022

Where consent has been provided, students will be tested for Covid-19 once on their return to school in January 2022. All students will be tested on **Wednesday 5 January**. The arrival times per tutor group are as follows, testing should be completed within 30 minutes of the arrival time:

Tutor group	Arrival Time	Tutor group	Arrival Time
7G1	08:15	11T2	11:00
7G2	08:30	8G1, 8 G2	11:45
7P1	08:45	8P1, 8 P2	12:05
7P2	09:00	8T1, 8T2	12:25
7T1	09:15	9G1, 9G2	12:45
7T2	09:30	9P1, 9P2	13:05
11G1	09:45	9T1, 9T2	13:25
11G2	10:00	10G1, 10G2	13:45
11P1	10:15	10P1, 10P2	14:05
11P2	10:30	10T1, 10 T2	14:25
11T1	10:45		

Students should enter the school via the PE gates, where consent will be checked and they will be taken through to the testing centre as appropriate. Please do not send your child in to be tested if consent has not been provided, we will be unable to test your child in school if consent was not provided by 9:00am on 13 December 2021. Please can we ask that your child arrives promptly at the stated time as we will have a lot of tests to get through that day.

Work will be made available to students via Google Classroom for Wednesday 5 January. All students will be expected back for face to face lessons on **Thursday 6 January**. Please could I remind all parents to ensure that students return to school with the correct uniform (including footwear) and with the correct equipment.

Home Testing

All students have been provided with 2 boxes of home test kits, **which are double nasal swab only**. Please encourage your child to test themselves regularly, at least twice a week. Results should continue to be reported to the school [here](#) and to the NHS [here](#). Contact tracing over the holidays will remain the responsibility of NHS Test & Trace.

Vaccinations

We are awaiting confirmation of the date that the School Nursing team will be in school to deliver further Covid vaccinations. This will be the second dose for students who have already received their first dose or the first dose for those students who have not yet been vaccinated at all. A consent form will be issued once the date is confirmed. **It is not advised to be vaccinated within 90 days of a positive covid-19 result.**

If you wish to make your own arrangements for your child to be vaccinated, the National Booking Service will be opening for this cohort from 20 December 2021. If your child is eligible and you wish for them to have it outside of school please follow the link below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Covid control measures

We will undertake a review of the latest DfE guidance in respect of COVID control measures in the New Year and will share an updated risk assessment with you at that time.

School term dates for 2022-2023

We are now in the position to publish the term dates for the next academic year (2022-2023). These can also be found on our website [here](#).

Autumn Term
1 September - 21 October 2022
31 October - 16 December 2022
Spring Term
3 January - 10 February 2023
20 February - 31 March 2023
Summer Term

17 April - 26 May 2023
4 June - 21 July 2023
Professional Development days (school closed to students)
1 September 2022
2 September 2022
14 November 2022
10 February 2023
3 July 2023

May I wish you and your family and friends a very peaceful Christmas and a happy new year.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Johnson
Headteacher