

15th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Arrangements for Friday 17th December and Staggered Return w/c 4th January 2022

I would like to thank all members of our school community for their support throughout this term. Despite the continued challenges we've faced together I am very proud of the determination and resilience shown by both students and staff in maintaining a very strong emphasis on learning and personal development. This has been possible because of the unswerving support of parents, carers and the wider school body and I am grateful that our Academy is part of such a positive and supportive community. For more information on our successes this term please see our latest Newsletter that will be on our website or Twitter feed shortly.

The main purpose of this letter is to update you on our arrangements for the end of term, a few COVID-19 reminders and subsequent return in January.

End of term arrangements

As you know, school **will finish for the Christmas holidays on Friday 17th December at 12.00pm**. It is expected that all students will attend school up to and including this day. The final day will be a 'wear something festive' non-uniform day, with a £1 contribution to our nominated charity – The Children's Air Ambulance. Whilst we'll take a relaxed approach to make up and nails, we do expect appropriated dress (no bare midriffs and shoulders covered).

COVID-19 Update

We obviously hope that you have a pleasurable and safe break over Christmas with your families. That said, we must continue to be vigilant around the threat posed by COVID-19 and in particular the Omicron variant. Please remember the following key points:

- A positive result means an individual **MUST** self-isolate
- All symptomatic individuals **MUST** self-isolate and seek a PCR test

If you have any further questions on this topic, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Staggered return to school

You will now be accustomed with the fact that schools are required to complete an asymptomatic testing process to support a safe return to school in the new year. This will take the form of rapid testing using Lateral Flow Devices to identify people who are infectious but do not have any Coronavirus symptoms. Students will have access to on-site tests, spaced across a number of days to aid a safe/smooth return to school.

A by-product of this testing process means that we will need to have a staggered return to school. Please see table below:

Date	AM – Testing 8.30-11.00am	PM – Testing 12.30-3.00pm	Year group in school
Monday 3 rd January 2022 – Bank Holiday	School Closed	School Closed	School Closed
Tuesday 4 th January 2022	Year 11	Year 10	None
Wednesday 5 th January 2022 *See Tutor Group times*	Year 7 7DML, 7MPW, 7JLH, 7FA, 7ATU	Year 7 7SB, 7AK, 7TP, 7SJT, 7ER	Year 11 & 10 Only
Thursday 6 th January 2022	Year 8	Year 9	Year 7, 10 & 11 Only
Friday 7 th January 2022	N/A	N/A	All Years – Including Year 8 & 9

Please note, car parking for parents will be available in school if you would like to wait for your child.

I hope that you and your family enjoy a peaceful and restful Christmas and look forward to welcoming your children back to the academy from **Tuesday 4th January 2022 onwards**.

Yours sincerely



Julian Harrison
Principal