

6th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your support in helping the school to have a successful term despite all the difficulties continuing at the present time.

Covid Related Matters

Thank you for your support in helping the school keep Covid numbers low by ensuring your child brings a face mask to school and that you keep them at home if they are ill with symptoms. We have adjusted our figures slightly from what I have previously communicated to take into account late notifications. In the week before half term the school recorded 23 positive cases. The week after half term this had fallen to 11 and the figures each week since have been 4, 3 and 5 respectively with 4 cases last week. These numbers are low compared to many other schools and national figures for the age group of our children. This is a reflection on the hard work everyone is putting in. It is of course extremely important that everyone keeps working hard to reduce Covid.

Last weekend the Government announced new measures to tackle Coronavirus and East Berkshire Public Health also released further guidance last week. For this school there are only two changes to our current guidance/rules because we were already under enhanced measures like all secondary schools in Slough since Half Term.

- If you or anyone in the household tests positive for the new Omicron variant of Coronavirus all household members must self-isolate for the required time. Irrespective of age or vaccination status. You will find this out and be advised by NHS Test and Trace. Please tell us as soon as possible.
- Secondary school age students will be tested once for Coronavirus on their return in January. Details are below.

All my previous guidance remains in place. When we restart in January the current guidance will continue including the need to wear face masks inside (unless exempt). Our current school day will also remain unchanged.

Last Day of Term

The last day of this term is 17th December, the School will operate a compact day finishing at 1pm.

Non-Uniform Day

On Friday 19th November we held a non-uniform for Children in Need. I am very pleased to announce £728.87 was raised, thank you for all your support.

Year 11, 12 and 13 parents evenings

We are going to hold face to face parents evening for these years groups before the end of term unless otherwise advised. Please wear face masks and allow more time for your visit due to staff being spread throughout the Hall, Canteen, Library and Main Block classrooms in order to aid distancing.

Free School Meals

The government has provided additional funding to local authorities to support students on Free School Meals over the holidays. Each child in receipt of Free School Meals will be entitled to a payment of £30 to cover the holiday period. This will follow the same format as the summer vouchers. I am also in discussion with our catering providers to increase the range of choice for students on Free School Meals at lunchtimes.

Start of Spring Term 2022

All students were supposed to come back to school on Tuesday 4th January. As the government have announced all students will now be required to be tested again before they return to school, we will once again have a staggered start. After this initial test students should continue to test at home twice a week. We will only contact you if the test is positive, therefore if you have not been contacted by 3pm on the day of testing your child should come to school as normal the next day. We will use all the consent forms we have previously had.

- **Year 7** – should come to school between 9am and 10.30am on Tuesday 4th January to be tested. Please use the far entrance to the school opposite the dance studio. Student must go home afterwards. ***Year 7 should then attend for the new term at 8.40am on Wednesday 5th January.***
- **Year 11** – should come to school between 10.30am and 12pm on Tuesday 4th January to be tested. Please use the far entrance to the school opposite the dance studio. Student must go home afterwards. ***Year 11 should then attend for the new term at 8.40am on Wednesday 5th January.***
- **Years 12 and 13** should come to school between 1pm and 2.30pm on Tuesday 4th January to be tested. Please use the far entrance to the school opposite the dance studio. Student must go home afterwards. ***Year 12 and 13 should then attend for the new term at 8.40am on Wednesday 5th January.***
- **Year 8** – should come to school between 9am and 11.15am on Wednesday 5th January to be tested. Please use the far entrance to the school opposite the dance studio. Student must go home afterwards. ***Year 8 should then attend for the new term at 8.40am on Thursday 6th January.***
- **Year 9** – should come to school between 11.15am and 1pm on Wednesday 5th January to be tested. Please use the far entrance to the school opposite the dance studio. Student must go home afterwards. ***Year 9 should then attend for the new term at 8.40am on Thursday 6th January.***
- **Year 10** – should come to school between 1.30am and 3pm on Wednesday 5th January to be tested. Please use the far entrance to the school opposite the dance studio. Student must go home afterwards. ***Year 10 should then attend for the new term at 8.40am on Thursday 6th January.***

Thank you for your continuing support and I wish everyone a happy and restful holiday period.

Yours faithfully



Mr Lawrence Smith
Headteacher

Term and Important Dates 2021 – 2022

Please note these are subject to change at this stage

	Monday 20 th December 2021 to Monday 3 rd January 2022	Christmas Holiday
Spring Term	Tuesday 4 th January 2022	Students in Years 7, 11, 12 and 13 to be tested at school.
	Wednesday 5 th January 2022	Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 to be tested at school. First Day of Term for students in Years 7, 11, 12 and 13.
	Thursday 6 th January 2022	First Day of Term for students in Years 8, 9 and 10.
	Tuesday 1 st February	Year 8 Parents' Evening
	Friday 18 th February 2022	Last day of Half Term – 3.10pm Finish
	Monday 21 st to Friday 25 th February 2022	Half Term Holiday
	Monday 28 th February 2022	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start.
	Thursday 10 th March 2022	Year 10 Parents' Evening
	Thursday 24 th March	Year 9 Parents' Evening
	Thursday 31 st March	Year 9 Pathways' Evening
Friday 8 th April 2022	Last Day of Term. School will operate a compact day finishing at 1pm.	
	Monday 11 th April to Friday 22 nd April 2022	Easter Holiday
Summer Term	Monday 25 th April 2022	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start.
	Monday 2 nd May 2022	School Closed for May Bank Holiday
	Thursday 5 th May 2022	Year 7 Parents' Evening
	Friday 27 th May 2022	Last day of Half Term – 3.10pm Finish
	Monday 30 th May to Friday 3 rd June 2022	Half Term Holiday
	Monday 6 th June 2022	School Closed due to Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Changed to published dates.
	Tuesday 7 th June 2022	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start. Change to published dates.
	Tuesday 19 th July 2022 -	Last Day of Term for students. School will operate a compact day finishing at 1pm.
	Wednesday 20 th July 2022	Staff ONLY Day - INSET
	Thursday 21 st July 2022	Staff ONLY Day - INSET