



14th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carer

I am writing to you as we start our final week in term. Whilst the term has been somewhat challenging at times it has also been hugely rewarding and our staff and learners have worked together to ensure we have had a really productive half term. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with some updates and share the arrangements for the start of next term.

Last Day of Term

Just a reminder that the last day of term finishes at 3.05pm for Year 7-9 learners and 3.10pm for the remainder of the school.

Plan B National restrictions

We continue to have a very low number of COVID cases in school at this present time.

However, we are obviously very aware that in the community there are much higher instances of COVID currently. The main implication of plan B for schools was face-coverings to be worn in communal areas. As always, our learners have responded very positively to this. We would like to remind you to send your child to school with a face covering.

The Government has also taken the opportunity to remind parents nationally that a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) should be taken by learners twice a week and also any visitors to the school, including parents, should undertake a Lateral Flow Test before visiting the school.

As always myself and the school leadership team will continue to monitor the present situation and keep you updated.

Free School Meals Tesco Gift Cards for Christmas Holidays

Parents / carers of all learners who are currently in receipt of Free School Meals will receive a digital £70 Tesco Gift Card per child, via email, to purchase food provisions for your child(ren) over the Christmas period. The digital gift cards are likely to be released on the morning of Saturday 18th December and will come from the email account tescogiftcards@cashstar.com. These gift cards are being funded through the Government's Household Support Fund and we hope they will help during this expensive time of year.

The Start of the Spring Term

As you are aware, the Government has asked schools to undertake LFT testing at the start of the new term in order that we minimise in school transmission after the school holiday. In order to do this effectively, we will be staggering the start of the spring term in order that learners can take an LFT test on-site on their first day back in school. The first day back in school for learners in each year group will be as follows:

Date	Year Group
Wednesday 5 th January	Year 10, 11 and Post 16 learners
Thursday 6 th January	Year 9 and 8
Friday 7 th January	Year 7

In order to minimise disruption to learning work will be set for Year 9 and Year 8 on Wednesday 5th January via Google classrooms and for Year 7 on Wednesday 5th January and Thursday 6th January. This will be a combination of live lessons and work set via Google classroom. I hope that this will be the first, and last time we need to stagger the start of term for our learners. I do appreciate how disruptive this can be and we will do all we can to keep learners in school.

Consent for on-site LFT testing

We are asking all parents and carers to renew their consent to ensure we have the most up-to-date records. This must be completed by all parents and carers who wish their child to be tested at the start of term. Please click on the link below and complete the online form to give consent for your child to be tested on site. Learners for whom we do not receive updated consent will not be tested. The deadline for providing consent is midnight on Monday 3 January 2022.

CONSENT FORM

Yours faithfully

L Cummins
Headteacher