

Ref DJB/AQG/Letters/11. Parent/Carer 10 December 2021

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Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of term, I wanted to send you some updates regarding the end of term, Covid and the beginning of next term.

Gratitude Week

Next week is Gratitude Week. We will be asking students and staff to complete cards for people they are grateful for. If parents/carers would like to thank a teacher, please use the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/Tu6m2v96B0>

Eisteddfod

We are disappointed not to be able to welcome parents to the event, but are looking forward to seeing our students perform. We will share details with parents/carers next week about how they can view the gallery. Results will be shared in a whole school Teams assembly on Friday, 17 December 2021.

Last Day of Term

The last day of term will be a normal school day ending at 2.50pm.

Beginning of Term

Tuesday, 4 January 2022 is a staff training day.

The government require us to run lateral flow testing again in January and as such, the beginning of term will be a staggered start. Please see the table below. If you have previously consented, you do not need to complete the form. If you would like to consent to testing, you should complete the form at:

<https://forms.office.com/r/mZkALyWCg1>

Wednesday, 5 January 2022			
Y7	08:35-10:20 LFT	Periods 1 and 2	Diamond Suite
Y11	11:00-12:35 LFT	Periods 3 and 4	Diamond Suite
Y13	13:30-15:05 LFT	Period 5	Diamond Suite – then Home
Thursday, 6 January 2022			
Y8	08:35-10:20 LFT	Periods 1 and 2	Diamond Suite
Y10	11:00-12:35 LFT	Periods 3 and 4	Diamond Suite
Y12	13:30-15:05 LFT	Period 5	Diamond Suite – then Home
Friday, 7 January 2022			
Y9	08:35-10:35 LFT	Periods 1 and 2	Diamond Suite

Individual timings for student arrival will be emailed to parents/carers in due course.

Covid Protective Measures

Following the Prime Minister's briefing this week we would like to remind you of the protective measures in place at Fairfax Academy.

All students should wear face coverings in communal areas. We are a large community, therefore, please encourage your child to ensure they play their part in reducing the risk transmission ahead of the festive break.

The Academy follows the DfE guidance on Covid measures. Part of these measures is to encourage regular lateral flow testing to identify asymptomatic positive cases. Please support your child to continue to lateral flow test each Sunday and Wednesday, and log the outcome of their test at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result.

Students will continue to be encouraged to exercise good hand hygiene by washing/sanitising their hands regularly. They are also reminded to exercise good respiratory hygiene by coughing/sneezing into a tissue, disposing of the tissue hygienically and then washing their hands. Please send your child to school with a clean tissue and, if possible, a pocket-sized bottle of sanitiser.

Enhanced cleaning remains in place and all rooms are ventilated. As the weather becomes colder, please ensure your child wears appropriate plain under layers and a plain black V-neck jumper in order to stay warm. As social time remains outdoors, students should wear an appropriate hooded coat (fabric hoodies are not permitted). Thank you for your ongoing support with the measures listed.

Rules for the New Variant

If your child has any of these three symptoms:

- High temperature
- New continuous cough
- Loss or change in sense of smell or taste

they should self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test as soon as possible.

If your child tests positive for the virus they must self-isolate for the period advised by Track and Trace.

If your child is contacted by Test and Trace and advised to self-isolate, they must self-isolate.

In all cases, please provide the Academy with the evidence of requirement to isolate to ensure the absence is appropriately coded.

If your child lives with or has been in contact with someone who may have the Omicron variant of Covid-19 they would need to self-isolate, and book a PCR test, even if they have no symptoms.

Additional information can be found at www.nhs.uk.

Farewell and Welcome to New Staff

Fairfax would very much wish to thank Mrs Mulhern, for over 25 years of service to Fairfax, and wish her all the very best in her forthcoming retirement.

We would also like to send Mrs Stringer our very best wishes as she retires after over 16 years at Fairfax.

We very much look forward to welcoming new staff joining us in January:

- Mrs J Mace (Assistant Headteacher)

Yours sincerely



MRS D J BUNN
Head of Academy