



10th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware from the national press on Wednesday the government announced the implementation of Plan B of the COVID-19 Response. I am pleased the priority is to keep schools open with the introduction of increased measures to support this. Attendance to school remains mandatory and I know how important it is for you for your children to attend school.

In line with my last letter students, staff and visitors should still wear face coverings in communal areas and when travelling on public transport and school buses. Please continue to conduct regular Lateral Flow Tests at home and report any positive results to us on the email address sherrylscott@chalfonts.org.

Isolation rules have not changed at the time of writing unless an individual is identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19. They will be asked to self-isolate and book a PCR test.

Changes to the start of term in January

The government have asked all secondary schools to provide an on-site test for students on return in January. Testing in school will help reduce transmission after the Christmas holidays.

In order for us to conduct these tests safely and reduce the risk of transmission in the return to school there will be a staggered start to the term as follows:

Wednesday 5th January

Students in Year 11, 12 and 13 return to school and go straight to tutor rooms. On-site testing during tutor time and period one. Lessons as normal for Years 11, 12 and 13 from period two.
Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 remain at home.

Thursday 6th January

Students in Years 9 and 10 return to school and go straight to tutor rooms. On-site testing during tutor time and period one.
Extended tutor time for all students and lessons as normal for Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 from period two.
Students in Years 7 and 8 remain at home.

Friday 7th January

Students in Years 7 and 8 return to school and go straight to tutor rooms. On-site testing during tutor time and period one.
Extended tutor time for all students and lessons as normal all students from period two.

I apologise for the inconvenience this may cause some families where children are returning to school one or two days later than planned but we have a requirement to undertake this testing and it is important to reduce the mixing of students prior to their tests for the safety of all in our school community.



The school week

The structure of the school week remains under close review along with the structure of the school day. This structure was set up at the tail end of the last academic year. I remain committed to reviewing this inherited structure, and the Governing Body and I have agreed that due to curriculum and timetabling complexities these arrangements will need to remain in place for at least one further term. I can assure you that there is a firm commitment to returning to full school days as soon as these issues can be overcome, and this will certainly be in place by September 2022. I realise that some parents would have hoped for this to be brought forward sooner but there is very limited scope to make these changes successfully mid-academic year without causing additional disruption to our students. I look forward to sharing further information in the Spring term about the plans for next year's curriculum developments, and there will be opportunities for you to be involved in parent feedback groups.

Christmas music

Our wonderful choir sang beautifully last Friday evening in the village. They were an absolute highlight so thank you to all involved. On Monday evening our Christmas concert will be held in The Hub at Gold Hill Baptist Church. For the second year running, our school choir will be streaming live from the school hall to Windsor Lodge Care home to bring happiness and joy to the elderly and their carers.

Year 11 Mock examinations

I would like to commend Year 11 students for their hard work and maturity during their mock examinations. This experience is vital in preparation for GCSE examinations in the summer. Results will be given out to students on Friday 21st January 2022.

Student rewards

We consistently recognise and reward students for working hard, being respectful, positive and aspirational, through merit points, student of the lesson, tutee of the week and certificates. The end of term gives us the opportunity to provide a special reward to the top students in each year group for their attitude to learning and exemplary behavior and effort this term. There are a number of festive reward activities taking place next week for these students and I would like to give a special commendation to students who are taking part for all their efforts this term and encourage everyone to aspire to these high standards next term.

Thank you cards

Well done to Freddie Thompson in 7G1 for designing a wonderful thank you card for staff. Students from all year groups will be writing cards to staff who have made a big difference this term. The cards bring a great deal of joy to staff to know they are appreciated so much by students!

Save the Children UK

Thank you for your generous donations to Save the Children UK. On Friday 10th, we have celebrated Christmas Jumper day to raise money for this charity. The option to donate using Parent Pay will remain open over the weekend. At the time of writing we have raised £1204!

I would like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable weekend ahead.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs C Whitehead
Principal



Key Dates:

End of term:

Friday 17th December Early finish at 1.20pm

Return to school:

Wednesday 5th January Year 11, 12 and 13

Thursday 6th January Year 9 and 10

Friday 7th January Year 7 and 8

Monday 24th January Staff Training day (no students in school)

Friday 18th February End of Half term

Join us on Twitter [@CCChalfonts](#) to keep up with all our school news

