

Date: 15 December 2021



**ST HILDA'S**  
CE HIGH SCHOOL

WISDOM  
HOPE  
COMMUNITY  
DIGNITY  
EQUALITY

**Dear parent/carer,**

Further to my letter yesterday advising of some of the difficult decisions I have made in order to support our Christmas break as cases rise, I am sending further details.

Tuesday morning would have been our Cathedral Carol Service. We are now doing this in-house. Not quite as grandiose as our usual venue, but as a Christian school it remains a priority. For Tuesday morning, students will be set work on Teams. This will be PSHE work as there are no scheduled lessons on that morning.

For the staggered return on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> of January, work will be created and posted on SMHW. The information will direct students to where that work can be found. Some staff may choose to set work on Teams, but this will be highlighted on SMHW for ease.

I have pasted the testing schedule below. The uptake of students wishing to have a test on-site is very high in our school. Please note, for parents or carers with more than one child here, please bring them to one appointment time. There is no need to travel back and to for different times. As further guidance, anyone who has had Covid after 8<sup>th</sup> October this year should not be tested in our January on-site testing. You are very welcome to do a home test, but any official test may bring about a positive result and a 10-day self-isolation period.

You may have seen that the guidance regarding self-isolation when in contact with positive cases has changed. I have pasted the guidance from the Department for Education below. All students have been given tests for the Christmas break and need to bring these home.

## Daily testing of close contacts for COVID-19 – updated guidance for schools

From today, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 to 18 years and 6 months identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, are strongly advised to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result.

Headteacher  
**Mrs J Code**  
BA (Hons), NPQH, FCTT

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I really do appreciate the disruption to your lives this causes. I also wish that I wasn't returning to a school that is a testing site, but to a 'normal' school day, but my role is to safeguard the students and staff here. Any cases of Covid the testing detects is one less case in our school. Please rest assured that decisions to change anything we do or the start and end dates are not taken lightly.

On a much lighter note, we have had some lovely events in school this week to celebrate Christmas. Tomorrow is Elf Yourself Day and our Christmas lunch for Years 7-11. The College Christmas meals and events have been lovely.

I appreciate your support and also understand your anxieties at another time of change to the pandemic. We are doing all that is within our control to limit any impact.

Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January					
YEAR 11 - 08.30am – 09:45am					
11AS	8.30am	11BB	9.00am	11RR	9.30am
11BA	8.45am	11GJ	9.15am	11WD	9.45am
YEAR 12 – 10.00am – 10:50am					
12AW	10.00am	12GR	10.20am	12WW	10:30am
12BM	10.10am		12RH	10:40am	
YEAR 13 - 11:10 - 11:50am					
13AM	11:10am	13GL	11:20am	13WS	11:30am
13BR	11:40am		13RH	11:50am	
YEAR 10 – 1.00pm – 2.15pm					
10BE	1.00pm	10GS	1.30pm	10WF	2.00pm
10AG	1.15pm	10RN	1.45pm	10WT	2.15pm

Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January					
YEAR 8 - 8.30am – 09.45am - Test					
8BT	8.30am	8GK	9.00am	8RM	9.30am
8AG	8.45am	8GC	9.15am	8WL	9.45am
YEAR 9 – 10.00am – 11.30am					
9BB	10.00am	9GO	10.45am	9RW	11.15am
9AD	10.15am	99RL	11.00am	9WM	11.30am
YEAR 7 – 1.00pm – 2.25pm					
7AM	1.00pm	7BM	1.35pm	7RV	2.10pm
7AC	1.20pm	7GW	1.55pm	7WB	2.25pm

Kind regards,

**Jo Code**

Headteacher