

Dear all Parents & Carers

I hope you are all well and looking forward to the Christmas Holidays.

I wanted to firstly update you on the contextual picture around Covid. Although our overall numbers remain proportionally low, they are rising - which includes staff and students. Obviously, this mirrors the national increase, but thankfully we are not at the stage where we are having to close year groups and/or bubbles. That is not to say that we will not consider this if the picture continues to get worse. However, currently we are managing to keep the Academy open on a normal basis.

The government has given us permission to consider a staggered start in January to support with testing in school. We are currently considering this, and it is likely that we will take this option. I will aim to provide you with this information by the end of this week, so you can prepare for any arrangements at home with this.

What we will have to complete, is on-site testing when the students return in January. Currently, as previously communicated, we are running Supervised Self-Testing in school, and I am delighted to say that the first day of the programme ran very successfully today. For the students that we currently have consent to test in our Supervised Self-Testing programme, we will carry this consent over to January. However, if you have not given your consent for this, and would like to provide your consent for your child to be tested when they return in January, please provide your consent here:
<https://forms.office.com/r/Tmi1RC7HP8>

We will also once again be working with the Local Authority to provide food vouchers for students who access Free School Meals, over the Christmas Holidays. Can I please ask that when you get the access for these that you do claim them. You are entitled to these vouchers, so please ensure that you do take up the option to claim for them, when prompted to do so.

Finally, I am also delighted to say that we will again be running our Family Prize Draw for a Christmas Hamper. Every Christmas, all CoPA families get placed into a prize draw and families are drawn at random to win our Christmas Hampers which have been donated by the Academy. Winners will be selected next Monday.

Kind Regards

Mr B Pearce
Principal