

Dear all Parents & Carers,

I just wanted to update you on a few developments, before we break up for the Christmas holidays.

Firstly, please note that anyone now deemed a close contact of someone with Covid-19, can now take daily Lateral Flow Tests at home for 7 days, instead of self-isolating. The only condition with this, is that you have to be double vaccinated, and this cannot be applied to when the person has the Omicron variant. Please also note that anyone under the age of 18 still does not have to self-isolate when deemed a close contact.

Please find attached a letter from the Local Authority regarding their Winter Voucher Scheme. Any family who are in receipt of Free School Meals are able to access this scheme, and I know many of you do during the holiday season. Can I please encourage you to continue to do so, by following the instructions on this letter and via any communication from us as an Academy.

Can I also remind you that the deadline for your consent for January testing is this Friday. Please provide your consent by completing the form via this link:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=WnSRoNi3ek2yphNZBT1FEHE-fVTD-I5OjeDcx4Z1MiJUQkNDNDI1SFJRU1hBVUtDSVUxVTNaNkg5MS4u>

As we have previously communicated, schools have been asked to use staggered starts to allow for testing, when students return in January. Our staggered start back in January is as follows:

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January: Year 10 & 11 (9:00am)

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January: Year 7 & 9 (8:30am)

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January: Year 8 (8:30am)

Finally, I am delighted to once again say that we will be holding our Family Prize Draw tomorrow, for our annual Xmas Family Hamper. All CoPA families are automatically placed into a prize draw, to win a selection of Xmas Hampers.

Kind Regards

Mr B Pearce  
Principal