



THE WESTLEIGH SCHOOL

Aspiring & Achieving Together

HEADTEACHER: MR CARLTON BRAMWELL *BEd (Hons), MSc, NPQH*



15th December 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

Once again, we have enjoyed a successful and busy term of learning at school. Sadly, the country is still struggling with Covid-19 and this has impacted both staff and students. I am however happy to report that school has remained a place of safety and learning for the children where they are happy and settled.

I would like to thank all the children for their amazing attitudes to learning, their resilience and for commitment to school life. I would also like to thank parents for your support, kind words and encouragement and for providing support to the school staff.

The one area that I need parents to support school further is by ensuring students have masks which they must wear at all times when moving around the site, and that all uniform expectations are met. **We are desperately trying to ensure that we follow the government guidance that clarifies:** "Face coverings should be worn by pupils and students in year 7 and above in communal areas, unless exempt. Pupils and students in year 7 and above in these settings must also wear a face covering when travelling on public transport and should wear it on dedicated transport to and from school, college, or higher education provider."

So that we can protect our students, staff and community as much as we can, for those students who are persistently not bringing a mask to school or wearing it when required, who are not identified as exempt, will be handled in the same manner as someone who doesn't comply with other uniform regulations.

School Last Day

Please be aware that on **Friday 17th December school will open at 8:25am as normal**. Please support the school by ensuring your child attends. We have worked hard to ensure the school's attendance is just short of 4% **above** the national average for schools across the country which is a fantastic achievement and we do not want that to change.

We have planned a fun filled morning for our students where we will be celebrating their performance throughout the first term.

As a small gesture, students will be allowed to wear a Christmas jumper if they so wish but this is not an expectation. Students must be, apart from the jumper, in full school uniform. Children who choose not to wear a Christmas jumper must attend in full school uniform as normal. **School will close for students at 12:05pm.**

Reminder of reopening arrangements

Lateral Flow Testing of students will take place in school the day after planned Inset (4th January) on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

School will therefore be closed on the following dates:

- **Tuesday 4th January: Closed to all students**
- **Wednesday 5th January: Closed to all students, except to attend for Covid testing**

In order to stagger testing and help manage queues, we ask students to attend between the following times:

- 9.30am – 11.00am – Key stage 3 (Year 7, 8 and 9)
- 11.30am – 12.30pm – Key Stage 4 (Year 10 and 11)

Siblings may attend together and if unable to attend at their allocated time, can attend the other session. We will keep the testing site open until 1.30pm in case of need.

If you have already consented, it is not necessary to provide consent again. If you have not yet consented to testing but wish your child to be tested in school on this or future occasions as needed, please complete the online form here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1KA6k2TETM3CHbPoxc6b6Del-aWXFy4erUPDv8S3Oyl/edit>

Can I take this opportunity to wish all our wonderful families a Very Merry Christmas and a Covid free New Year, and I look forward to working with our amazing Westleigh family next year.

Kind regards,



Carlton Bramwell
Headteacher