

Dear Parents/Carers,

End of Term Arrangements - December 2020

The Department for Education announced last Tuesday that it would be possible for schools to use Friday 18 December 2020 as a Training Day, therefore ending the term one day earlier on Thursday, 17 December. I am writing to let you know that we had already planned to finish Thursday, 17 December 2020 as published in our calendar in September and still plan to do so.

Arrangements for the end of term:

Students will be released at the following times on Thursday, 17 December 2020. Any students who have free school meals will be able to collect a grab bag from the canteen.

Year	Exit time	Exit
ARC students	12.00pm	Front Door/West Wing
Year 7	12.15pm	Front Door/West Wing
Year 8	12.20pm	Back Door/West Wing
Year 9	12.25pm	Front Door/West Wing
Year 10	12.30pm	Back Door/West Wing
Year 11	12.35pm	Front Door/West Wing
Year 12/13	12.45pm	Community exit/West Wing

Please note a small number of students are attending school Friday 18th December 2020 (by invite only).

You will be aware that when we have a positive case of Covid-19 in school, we are obliged to identify close and social contacts, who, in turn, are required to self-isolate in-line with national guidance. This is a time consuming process and we take great care to be as accurate as possible given the information we have. We do this because we know the importance of this process for the Health and Safety of our community. We are also acutely aware that this can present a challenging situation for all families who have a child who is required to self-isolate. Following the Government's announcement on Friday from Monday 14 December 2020, **the isolation period will change from 14 days to 10 days**. Any students currently self-isolating, will be contacted to let them know when their isolation now ends.

As Christmas approaches, we are very conscious of the fact that this will be a particular issue for families over the Christmas holiday period. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support to date both in terms of letting us know of positive cases and testing. I have been left humbled by the over whelming majority who have thanked us for our communication around positive cases and for your complete understanding of the work we have to do to keep everyone safe. It is hugely appreciated.

In line with Department for Education guidelines, our advice for the Christmas period is as follows:

- **It is crucial for our families and staff to contact school immediately if a pupil or staff member starts to show symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, and goes on to test positive for Coronavirus.** We will then help to identify contacts who will be advised to self-isolate (including over Christmas unfortunately).

- If symptoms develop more than 48 hours after last being in school, in the case of a positive Covid-19 test, you should not contact school, but should follow instructions given by NHS Test and Trace.
- Schools have been asked to continue contact tracing for positive Covid 19 cases for 6 days after the last teaching day, which is up to and including 23rd December; after this time, you should not contact school, but should follow instructions given by NHS Test and Trace.

As school will be closed over Christmas we have created a dedicated covid email address. The covid email address will be monitored throughout the Christmas period.

We would ask you to email covidinfo@hansonacademy.org.uk if your child tests positive from 18th December 2020. We will need to know the following information to inform us of any positive cases:

- Name of child
- Year Group and form group
- Date your child last attended school
- Symptoms and the date/time they started
- Date test taken
- Preferred telephone contact details (in case school need to call you back)

Although this has been a strange term – I am really proud of our community and our students, as they have continued to embrace change. Year 7 are now settled in to secondary school life and excelling. Year 8 are consolidating their learning. Year 9 and 10 have settled in well to their new GCSE courses and are showing how dedicated they are. Year 11 have worked brilliantly and remain focused on their studies. Year 12 and 13 are pushing themselves hard with their Post 16 courses and completing their UCAS applications. It has been a very positive term for students and staff.

Arrangements for the beginning of next term:

School will re-open for all students at the usual times on Monday 4th January 2021.

Year	Time	Entrance
Year 7	8.20am	Front Door/West Wing
Year 8	8.25am	Back Door/West Wing
Year 9	8.45am	Front Door/West Wing
Year 10	8.40am	Back Door/West Wing
Year 11	8.30am	Front Door/West Wing
Year 12/13	8.40am	Community exit/West Wing

In closing I would like to thank you again for your support this term and for your continued support over the rest of the academic year. Together we can continue the excellent work that has taken place and continue to drive Hanson forward. On behalf of all the staff and governors, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Yours sincerely



Richard Woods
Headteacher