

Acting Headteacher: Ms. A. Ward

Thursday 16th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your families are well.

We have enjoyed celebrating students' achievements as the term ends. We will share shortly the latest issue of Mulberry Voice with details and photographs of school events and achievements.

We are writing with a number of important updates for the end of term and start of the new term on Tuesday 4th January.

Covid guidance on contacts

The government guidance has been amended in relation to contacts of Covid-19.

Any contact of a person who has tested positive for Covid-19 should now take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days.

This guidance applies to all adults who are fully vaccinated and children up to the age of 18 years and 6 months.

NHS Test and Trace will contact anyone who is identified as a close contact. Please inform the school if this happens; we will provide the lateral flow tests. These should be taken each day for 7 days and the results reported both to the government [here](#) and to the school [here](#).

If students test negative each day they should continue to attend school. If they test positive, they should self-isolate and order a PCR test to confirm the result.

If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.

If your child is unable to take lateral flow tests at home then this can be done and supervised in school. Please let us know if this is required.

If students are not able to attend school due to isolation, but are not unwell, they should access all learning materials and work through Microsoft Teams.

If your daughter cannot currently access Teams from home she should tell her form tutor immediately and we will provide support.

Part of the

Mulberry
Schools Trust



End of term

Term ends for all students on Friday 17th December. Students will have a staggered dismissal to support a safe exit from the school site.

Students who are eligible for free school meals will be provided with lunch.

Year group	Finish time
Year 7	12.30pm
Year 8	12.50pm
Year 9	12.40pm
Year 10	12.50pm
Year 11	1pm
Year 12 and 13	12 midday

Free school meals and winter holiday programme

The borough are providing £20 Tesco vouchers for all students eligible for free school meals. We anticipate receiving and posting these to families before the end of this week.

The borough is running a winter holiday activity programme offering a range of fun activities and a meal for students eligible for free school meals. All details can be found [here](#).

Start of term

The new term begins for all students at 8.40am on Tuesday 4th January with no staggered start.

To support a safe return, testing will be offered to all students onsite at the start of term. Testing is done on the basis of consent, which can be provided [here](#).

If there is any change in government guidance that affects the start of term we will write to parents, and update the website, before the start of term. Otherwise we look forward to welcoming all students back on Tuesday 4th January.

Reminders for the start of term

Please ensure that students do not bring any medication into school, including paracetamol. If students need any medication in school please ensure that this is dropped off by a parent or carer to school reception and that it is clearly labelled. This will be administered in school by a trained first aider.

Students should return to school in normal full school uniform. Full details of uniform requirements can be found [here](#). Nose studs and other body piercings than ears (with a pair of plain studs) are not permitted in

school.

Friday 14th January is an INSET day. Year 11 and Year 13 students should still attend school on this day for mock exams. The school will be closed to all students in other year groups.

Thank you for your ongoing support this term. We will write again during the break if there is any change to the start of term, otherwise we hope that you have a safe and enjoyable break and we look forward to working closely together in the new term.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to be 'AW' or similar initials.

Alice Ward
Acting Headteacher