

To: All Parents / Carers

11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Our Ref:** HT.KH.2700

**Your Ref:**

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: End of Term Update**

I would like to thank you for the support you have shown over the past half term with regards bubble closures and managing the introduction of live lessons online. Live lessons had a positive impact on student engagement, and I would like to thank everyone for supporting their children at home with learning. Thank you also to everyone who took the time to email the positive feedback regarding live lessons.

Last day of term arrangements – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

**Christmas jumper day** – students will be allowed to come in a non-school uniform and wear a Christmas jumper if they have one. We are suggesting a donation of £1.00 to be donated to the local food bank, this will be collected in the morning.

**Timings of the day are as follows:**

Start of the day – Normal start times for each year group

End of the day:

Year Group	Dismissal time	Exit
7	2:45	Forest Walk
8	3:00	Forest Walk
9	3:00	Main Gate
10	2:45	Main Gate
11	2:45	Side Gate
12 and 13	3:00	Side Gate

Free School Meal Vouchers over Christmas break

Parents/Carers of students who are eligible for Free School Meals should have been contacted with regards to the support over the Christmas break. You should have received a letter regarding checking contact details, unless these are correct the allocation of vouchers will not be processed and sent to yourselves via the Free School Meal system, please make sure these have been checked by **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** as outlined in the letter. If you have not received a letter then please contact [info@rsaacademy.org](mailto:info@rsaacademy.org) if you are eligible for free school meals. Any issues with the receiving of vouchers over the Christmas break please email [info@rsaacademy.org](mailto:info@rsaacademy.org)

## Start of Spring Term

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Staff training days

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021 first day for students.

We have reviewed how well the students are managing to get into their new designated areas, as a result we are changing the times of the start and end of the day slightly for each year group.

Year Group	Arrival time	Learning starts at	Departure Time	Entry and Exit Gates
7	8:40am	8.45am	3:00pm	Forest Walk
8	9.00am	9.05am	3:20pm	Forest Walk
9	9:00am	9.05am	3:20pm	Main Gate
10	8:40am	8.45am	3:00pm	Main Gate
11	8:30am	8.35am	3:00pm	Side Gate
12 and 13	9.00am	9.05am	3:20pm	Side Gate

## Reintroduction of Behaviour Sanctions

As of January, we shall return to the previous detention and isolation system that was suspended for the return in September. The sanctions were suspended to support students with their return to school, but it is now appropriate and safe to return to the normal operating procedures.

As always the sanction system impacts on a minority of students who disrupt learning for others; for the vast majority of students the rewards system will be reintroduced to celebrate and reward where students are continually displaying the values and expectations of the Academy. Where a detention is issued you will be informed on the day of the detention.

## Attendance

Academy attendance continues to be above the national average even in these unchartered times. From September, the government expected all pupils to return to school. This means that all students, unless they are self-isolating, are expected to attend to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on their education, wellbeing and wider development.

Attendance is mandatory which means that the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including schools' ability to issue penalty fines for non-attendance through the Local authority.

Where students or those in their **household display symptoms of corona virus or test positive**, they should **not** come to school and email the [COVID19@rsaacademy.org](mailto:COVID19@rsaacademy.org) to ensure the Academy is aware of the absence. A member of the pastoral team will then contact you to discuss further. If the absence is non Covid related then please continue to use the absence line.

## KS3 group changes

From January we will be regrouping the students in Year 7, 8 and 9 into ability teaching/tutor groups. The students will not be placed in sets, but instead in an ability tutor group based on their data from prior assessments. The rationale for this is so that we can better support the needs of all students across the year groups and ensure that we can tailor the support of our achievement assistants where needed. It will also mean we can further stretch and challenge the more able.



Thank you for your continued support over these difficult times and that you and your families have a peaceful Christmas.

Yours sincerely,



**Helen Tanner**  
**Acting Principal**

