

## HBK Update, Friday 3 December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to your Friday round-up of things HBK!

### End of Term Arrangements Autumn 2021 – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

**The last day of term is Friday 17 December 2021 and students will be finishing school at 1.15pm on this day.** Students will have lessons 1 to 3 as normal (including break), followed by lunch at 12.20pm. The warning bell will ring at 1pm, after which students will have afternoon registration before being dismissed at 1.15pm. School buses have been altered to allow students to travel home at the revised time, however anyone using public transport will need to check the timetables. If any student is unable to get home at this earlier time, please contact your child's Head of Year so that arrangements can be made to supervise them in school until 3.15pm.

We are making Friday 17 December 2021 a **non-uniform day**. We are asking students to make a voluntary contribution of **£1**, which will help fund our Eco-Committee's upcoming tree project. If students do not want to donate £1 they may continue to wear their uniform as normal. Please note that face coverings will still need to be worn and all COVID safety measures will remain in place. We will be collecting the £1 voluntary contributions on the gates when students arrive at school in the morning.

### Mock Examinations – message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

Well done to our Year 11 students for getting through the Mocks! They have been really impressive going in and out of the exams over the last 2 weeks, and their behaviour in the examinations has been superb, of course! Any students who have missed an exam will receive an email from our wonderful exams team, advising them when and where they can catch up. Good luck to the Year 13 students who are just embarking on their Mock exams, which will last until the end of term.

### Mock Results Day, Wednesday 15 December 2021 - message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

Year 11 students will receive their Mock results during their period 5 lesson on Wednesday 15 December. We are aiming to create the feel of a real results day, with envelopes for them to open, and little idea of what they have achieved until they look. We will of course have plenty of support on hand until the end of term, for anyone who needs it. Predicted grades (the grades that staff feel students are likely to achieve this summer) will be sent home after the Christmas break but will be uploaded for student applications before the break.

### Covid-19 Update – message from Mr Cooke, Vice-Principal

As expected, the number of positive Covid-19 cases is creeping up a little more each week, particularly in Year 7, where most students are not yet old enough to be vaccinated. When your child turns 12 years old, or if your child missed out on the opportunity to be vaccinated in school in October, then you can book a vaccination through this link: [Book or manage a coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

This week more Covid-19 mitigations have been re-introduced into schools nationally, so we continue to strongly encourage students to be outside at both breaktime and lunchtime, because being outside is the safest place for them to be. We do have wet break/lunch arrangements for when the weather is too wet to remain outside. In addition, we will continue throughout the winter to keep classroom doors and windows open whilst teaching. **So please can you ensure that your child comes to school wearing a coat and an appropriate number of layers.** Thank you.

### On-site Asymptomatic Testing when returning to school in January – message from Mr Cooke, Vice-Principal

The government once again asked schools to conduct 'On-Site Asymptomatic Covid-19 testing' of all students before they commence lessons at the start of the spring term. The difference on this occasion, compared to last September, is that students are only required to complete **one test** rather than two. In order to avoid a staggered start to term, where students cannot be in school for one or two days, we will trial a new, simpler system for **supervised voluntary self-testing**. This new system is possible as most students are now more familiar with performing the self-swabbing process, due to the regular twice-weekly testing which is in place. An outline of the new On-Site Testing process is as follows:

- All students will attend school at the normal time on **Wednesday 5 January 2022**, in line with published term dates
- Students go immediately to the '**testing-area**' allocated for their Year Group (*testing areas to be confirmed*)
- Students who do not have parental consent for testing should go to their form room instead. Here is the link to the testing consent forms if you now wish to give consent:  
[Lateral Flow Device Test Consent Form - January 2021](#)
- Students will be monitored by trained testers whilst they perform the self-swabbing process
- After the appropriate time has elapsed, students will record their test result themselves on the school's Test-Register system, using their mobile phones
- Test results will also be checked and recorded by the students' tutors. This will act as back-up in case a student is unable to log the result themselves (*by using their mobile phone*)
- Any student who tests positive will need to leave school as soon as possible. Parents will be contacted to arrange this
- Lessons will commence once all students who are doing the self-testing have completed the process. This is planned to be by 10am, the start of Period 2
- More specific details about the process will be shared with students before the end of term

This is a very significant logistical process involving the whole school. Thus we are very grateful to our '**Testing Volunteers**' who have assisted on previous occasions. We are **now seeking more volunteers** to add to the team. If you are willing and able to help, you would need to complete the online training (approximately 4 hours) and then be available to volunteer your time to attend school on Wednesday morning, 5 January 2022, between 8am and approximately 10.30am. We envisage that the government is likely to ask schools to carry out this testing process at the start of each term over the next year and possibly longer, hence we would appreciate more assistance. If you are interested in joining the volunteer team then please email Mrs Lowe [flowe@hbk.acesmat.uk](mailto:flowe@hbk.acesmat.uk) to receive further details and a link to the training. Thank you very much.

### The Christmas Voucher Scheme (Free School Meals) – message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

Once again, Cambridgeshire County Council will be sending out FSM vouchers to those who are eligible to cover the Christmas break. Each eligible family will receive a £30 voucher on Friday 17 December 2021. If there are any issues, please email [winter.support@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:winter.support@cambridgeshire.gov.uk).

Cambridgeshire County Council is also offering wider support for those not eligible for FSM but do need more support including fuel, clothing and food requirements. Please see the [letter](#), [FAQs](#) and [video](#) for more information. If you do not currently claim for Free School Meals but want to know if you may be eligible and how to apply, please see the information attached.

### Christmas Fair at Hinchingsbrooke House

The fair will be held on Sunday 12 December, 10.30am to 4pm. Proceeds from the fair will go towards the maintenance of the House and Gardens. At the fair, there will also be a raffle for a Local youth Cancer Charity. The poster advertising the fair is here: [Christmas Fair at Hinchingsbrooke House](#)

## Vacancies at HBK



### Senior IT Technician

Hinchingsbrook School is looking to appoint a motivated Senior IT Technician to lead a small and friendly IT Services Team to support the delivery of Teaching and Learning at Hinchingsbrook School. Please click the link [Senior IT Technician](#) further information and details of how to apply. Closing date for applications: Thursday 9 December

### Site Officer

Hinchingsbrook School is seeking to appoint a skilled, caring and enthusiastic Site Officer to join our team. Please click the link [Site Officer](#) for further information and details of how to apply.

### Level 2 Teaching Assistant

Hinchingsbrook School is looking for a highly motivated and committed Teaching Assistant to join our thriving SEND department. Please click the link [Level 2 Teaching Assistant](#) for further information and details of how to apply. Closing date for applications: Tuesday 6 December



### ACES Academies Trust

Please visit the ACES website for current vacancies at schools within the Trust.

[www.acesacademies.co.uk/vacancies](http://www.acesacademies.co.uk/vacancies)

**Please feel free to share any of our vacancies with friends and family who may be interested!**

## This week's blog

This week's blog is about digital technology in schools. If you would like to read it, it's here:

<https://learningisthething.com/?p=308>

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

**Mark Patterson**  
**Principal**