

## HBK Update, Friday 14 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to your Friday HBK update!

### Second dose of Vaccination and Covid-19 update – message from Mr Cooke, Vice-Principal

Hinchingbrooke students aged 12 to 15 years old are being offered a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine in school on **Friday 21 January 2022** (or a first dose if they have not received one yet). It must be a minimum of 12 weeks from the student's first dose. The team of nurses from the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) will only give the vaccine to students who have a **NEW parental consent form completed** on the NHS portal. Parental consent given for the **first dose does NOT count** for this one. Please see the letter on [Covid-19 vaccinations](#) from the SAIS to complete the parental consent form. Students should **wear a short sleeved school shirt or their PE polo top** on the day. We have been told that the nurses will only have capacity to administer 400 doses on the day, so if the demand is greater than this they have told us that an additional day of vaccinations will be arranged in due course. If your child misses the opportunity to have a vaccination in school for some reason (e.g. absent or recently had Covid-19) then appointments can be booked at local vaccination centres – please see the [Notice from the Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust](#) which contains the necessary information and links.

Very pleasingly, in contrast to the government's recent prediction, this week's Covid-19 numbers for students and staff have decreased each day, and they are now significantly lower than last week's. But we must not be complacent and we will continue to monitor the situation closely. Thank you very much for how you are supporting your child(ren) in complying with our current mitigations, especially the requirement to bring **their own face mask and bottle of hand sanitiser to school with them every day** – we think this is making a difference.

### Student and Parent / Carer Survey Report – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

Thank you to all those parents and carers who responded to the Hinchingbrooke survey before Christmas. Here is an overview of the results of the [Student and Parent/Carer Survey Autumn 2021](#). The results include the full reports for both the student and parent / carer surveys, along with an overview which references the staff survey also completed last term.

The main headlines are that staff and students were more positive than in previous surveys, particularly about students' behaviour, challenging students to make good progress, having a range of clubs and extra-curricular activities available and having an adult in school to talk to. There was also positive feedback from parents, particularly regarding the school having high expectations, students doing well, the range of wider opportunities for personal development and recommending the school to another parent. Some of the feedback from parents and carers reflected the fact they felt it was too early in the year to take a view in some areas.

Our next steps will be to report the results of the surveys to all stakeholders and to begin a series of 'you said, we did' items in the staff bulletin, the weekly ParentMail and in student assemblies and form time sessions. We will also be establishing focus groups, as detailed in the report, to promote discussion about the areas where we can improve. We will repeat all three surveys in the Summer term so that we can look at whether there has been any in-year improvement as well as the year-on-year patterns. I would urge as many parents and carers as possible to have their say in the Summer survey, to ensure the results are as representative as possible of everyone in our Hinchingbrooke community.

### Cycling to and from school – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

As a member of HBK.com we encourage students to be 'responsible, empathetic and proud' representatives of the school. One of the key ways that they do this is on the journey to and from school. While the vast majority of those who cycle to and from school do so safely and responsibly each day, there are a small number of students about whom we have received complaints from members of the public. The concerns raised include cycling across traffic in front of cars, not dismounting bikes in pedestrianised areas and not being considerate of other road or pavement users. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to remind students and you of the school's expectations to ensure everyone has a safe and uneventful journey:

- That students use lights in darker conditions and wear appropriate clothing, including a cycle helmet
- That students' bikes are well maintained and regularly checked
- That students use cycle lanes and pedestrian crossings where available
- That students are aware and considerate of pedestrians
- That students do not use their mobile phones whilst cycling
- That students do not ride their bikes in the pedestrian areas of Huntingdon, over the footbridge to Godmanchester or in designated bus lanes
- That students are courteous to members of the public if challenged about their conduct whilst cycling

Quite apart from the impact that poor behaviour outside of school has on the reputation of Hinchingsbrooke, we are first and foremost concerned for the safety of our students and appreciate your support in ensuring that all of our young people are able to travel safely to and from school each day.

### Parent Governor Vacancy at HBK (this is a copy of the message included in the 7 January HBK Update)

We are seeking to appoint a Parent Governor to our Governing Body. Hinchingsbrooke School is an academy with 1900 students and is judged a good school by OFSTED. The key role of the Governing Body is to: provide strategic leadership; ensure accountability of the Principal and Senior Leadership Team for the educational performance of the school; and ensure effective use of resources to support learning. Governors should be able to focus on the bigger picture, capable of rapidly assimilating various forms of information and ask insightful questions of the leadership team. We would be particularly interested in people who have any of the following backgrounds: Health and Safety; Legal; Marketing and PR; Construction and building maintenance; Finance. Parents and carers with other backgrounds are, of course, very welcome to apply, too. The most important thing is to have someone who is committed to supporting the school to help it improve and to working positively and collaboratively with other governors and senior leaders to bring this about.

Governors are expected to attend around five evening meetings per year plus a one day visit to the school. If you are interested in being a governor, you should in the first instance, apply to Mrs Warner, our clerk to governors, for an expression of interest form. The application window will close on **Monday 24 January 2022**. Contact details: [dwarner@hbk.acesmat.uk](mailto:dwarner@hbk.acesmat.uk)

### Governor Vacancy at Cromwell Academy Primary School

One of the other schools in our Trust, Cromwell Academy Primary School, is also looking for one or more governors. You may have had a child who attended Cromwell Academy Primary and retain an interest in the school, or you may like the idea of helping out at Primary level. If you are interested, please see more information on the [Governor Vacancy at Cromwell Academy](#).

## BARRACUDAS Activity Camps at HBK – message from Mr Fidler, Commercial Lettings Manager, Hinchingsbrooke School

The first Barracudas Activity Camp will take place during February half term 2022!

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Thank you to our students – please pass this on your child(ren) our thanks

- For their strong start to the Spring term
- For their commitment to our school values of Hard Work, High Standards and Kindness
- And for being part of HBK.Com, that seeks to develop responsibility, empathy and pride in all of our students

### Vacancies



#### Senior IT Technician

Hinchingsbrooke 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 Hinchingsbrooke 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

Hinchingsbrooke 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.



#### 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)

## This week's blog

As we have just been 'Ofsteded' I couldn't resist creating a blog last weekend about Ofsted inspection, entitled, *'The Good, the Bad, and the Ofsted'*. If you would like to read it, it's here: <https://learningisthething.com/?p=381>

We are Hinchingsbrooke.

**Mark Patterson**  
**Principal**