



## Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

Despite the change in the national COVID rate it has been a great end to the term. Whilst we have not been able to do the end of year assemblies in person I hope the students enjoyed the remote versions. We do want to recognise the students hard work, resilience and positivity this term.

I have a few updates, and as always, some reminders (apologies for repetition).

### **Lateral Flow Tests (Home Testing)**

Thank you so much for your support in continuing to perform lateral flow tests at home.

The link to reporting results to the NHS is here: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. The link to report results to us is here: <https://forms.gle/RKzCqrFhzDS4CFK87> (please also call or email the school if you test positive).

### **Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing before return to school in January 2022**

All students will be expected to log on and learn remotely on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> and for Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>.

The remote learning will contain live teaching as per our policy (unless a teacher is ill).

You will already have received an email informing you of the student's appointment on either Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. A copy of the letter for each year group can be found in the *Letters Home* section on the school website see links below:

Year 7: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/letters-home-year-7/>

Year 8: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/letters-home-year-8/>

Year 9: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/letters-home-year-9/>

Year 10: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/letters-home-year-10/>

Year 11: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/letters-home-year-11/>

Sixth Form: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/sixthform/letters-home-sixth-form/>

The lessons that students are expected to attend remotely are below (the yellow filled testing periods are when the Year group is being tested and there will be no lessons then):

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**Tuesday 4th January**

YEAR	Form	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
7	Remote	Remote 8.50 – 9.20	Testing	Testing	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson
8	Remote	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson
9	Remote	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson
10	Remote	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson
11	Remote	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote 11.10 - 11.40	Testing	Remote Lesson
12	Remote	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson
13	Remote	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Testing

**Wednesday 5th January**

YEAR	Form	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
7	<b>IN SCHOOL</b>					
8	Testing	Testing	Remote 10.20 – 10.50	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson
9	Remote	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Testing	Testing
10	Remote	Remote 8.50 – 9.20	Testing	Testing	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson
11	<b>IN SCHOOL</b>					
12	Remote	Remote Lesson	Remote Lesson	Testing	Testing	Remote Lesson
13	<b>IN SCHOOL</b>					

**Remote Learning**

All students have their Google Classroom codes, logins and passwords.

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Students will be expected to start their day at no later than 8.20am, they will need to attend online form time which starts at 8.20am. Their online lessons follow the same times as their usual timetable with breaks and lunch at the same time as the school day.

### **Expectations during a remote lesson**

We know the vast majority of our students will perform very well with the demands of online learning. We know that etiquette and behavior will be impeccable. However, we do need to ensure that there is structure and formality to these lessons. So, as students are not in school with their planners, we will operate a simple behaviour management system for these 2 days. Rather than using a verbal warning and 2 comments ahead of phase 4 class removal, staff will give 3 verbal reminders to modify behaviour which will be classed as 3 strikes. If your child has 3 strikes in any one lesson they will receive a Detention on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January.

If a student's behaviour is totally unacceptable, the pastoral team will be in touch with you and usual school sanctions will apply on their return.

### **Safeguarding & Online Safety**

Please be assured that our whole staff duty and care, and vigilance extends to the remote classroom. Staff will report any concerns as they usually would. Staff will also reinstate online safety expectations when using websites and research etc. as part of a lesson.

Could we please ask you as parents to also ensure the following:

- Your child is in an appropriate and neutral space such as a dining table, desk, sofa, kitchen table. Your child should not be in bed, or in a bedroom.
- That there is nothing inappropriate or offensive in the background.
- Remind your child to not share personal information whilst on line.
- Try to ensure the space is quiet and that other children are not seen in the background.
- Your child should be appropriately dressed and ready to learn, with full equipment at hand.
- Your child must follow the same rules and etiquette as we would expect in a classroom. Ground rules may be given at the start of each lesson and these must be followed. Students may ask staff appropriate questions when prompted.

### **Registers**

We expect all students to attend all lessons and form time as they normally would on these days. Formal registers will be taken for each form time and lesson. Lessons will be at the same time and same duration. Staff will follow up on any absence.

Please make sure to call the school reception before 8.30am if your child is unwell and absent from online learning:  
0113 2265454

### **Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19**

From Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, all adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, who are identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. This approach should be adopted immediately and continue after the return to school in January.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, students should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#) and to their setting. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting.

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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.

Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.

In a change to the guidance, adults and students are expected to take part in the daily LFD testing even if they have had COVID in the last 90 days. This is due to the fact it could be possible to catch Omicron directly after the Delta variant.

### **Vaccination of 12-15 Year olds**

Over the Christmas holidays, parents can book first vaccinations for their child, if aged 12 or over, through the [NHS booking system](#). Second doses will be available for eligible children by Monday 20 December.

Further information on [vaccination for 12 to 15 year olds](#) is available on the NHS website.

### **Horsforth Students win the Faraday Engineering Challenge**

Congratulations to Year 8 students Angel, Chloe, Marc, Alfie, Shanna, Euan, Georgina, Daphne, Fin, Jna, Scarlett and Finlay, who competed at the IET Faraday Engineering challenge day on the 14<sup>th</sup> December at Fulneck school.

Working as 2 teams of 6, the students had to design a project to help make a child's stay in hospital more comfortable and then build the project using a range of components, including electrical circuitry. The students all did amazingly well and **Alfie, Fin, Jna, Georgina, Daphne and Chloe** managed to take home the overall win on the day! Well done to all 12 of the students who represented the school so wonderfully.

As I reflect on 2021 it is easy to slip into focusing on what has, perhaps, not been the best of years. However, there is so much to be positive about and so much I am grateful for. I am tremendously grateful and lucky to be the Headteacher of a school like Horsforth. I am quite fortunate to have such a great staff to rely upon. I serve an engaged, resilient and positive community but mostly I am blessed to have our wonderful, creative and cheerful students.

So, whilst it may feel we are finishing 2021 a bit like it started I am incredibly optimistic about our future. Our new building is progressing extremely well and we hope that our Sixth Form might be able in some rooms from Easter. We have weathered the local and national staffing shortages and with our contingency plans are ready for any eventuality in 2022.

So, I would like to sign off the year by thanking you for your enduring patience, support and resilience. I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Take care, stay safe and best wishes.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell  
Headteacher

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