



December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

This letter comes with my very best wishes for this festive period. I hope you and your loved ones are safe, well, and able to spend time together safely over the next few weeks. We are certainly living through interesting times.

Start of term arrangements

The government have asked all secondary schools to conduct Lateral Flow Testing at the start of term. These gateway tests – reducing the transfer of the virus into schools following the Christmas period – will take place on Tuesday January 4 and Wednesday January 5.

Although students have access to testing kits at home, studies have shown that testing in school, supervised by trained professionals, is more accurate. In-school testing also helps drive up participation rates in subsequent home testing. The process itself – which is calm and highly structured – has acted as real reassurance for both staff and students as they reintegrate back into school.

We therefore strongly recommend that your child takes an on-site Lateral Flow Test in January.

Consent will be drawn from the March and September testing cycles. If you would like to change your existing position, please email enquiries@hampsteadschool.org.uk or, if granting consent, send your child to school on the relevant testing day with a signed note.

Students must:

- Come at the time indicated below
- Wear full school uniform
- Stay at home until Thursday January 6 if you have not consented to testing

Tuesday January 4	
0900	Year 11
1030	Year 10
1200	Year 12 and 13
Years 7, 8 and 9: school closed	

Wednesday January 5	
0900	Year 7
1030	Year 8
1200	Year 9
Years 10, 11, 12 and 13: normal school day	

Thursday January 6
School open as normal for all students

Of course, as with last year, all of the above may be subject to change. If government guidance changes, we will be in touch with further updates.

School will be closed for the Christmas break, but the enquiries@hampsteadschool.org.uk email address will be monitored. If you have any questions or concerns over the next two weeks, please do get in touch.

All best wishes for 2022

Matthew Sadler
Head