

15 December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well and looking forward to the festive season. I apologise for the length of this letter but there is a lot of important information to share.

I have been in regular contact with Mrs Peters, who sends her best wishes to pupils and families for the coming holiday. As Mrs Peters continues her recovery from long covid, I can confirm that Mrs Gould will be in place as Acting Headteacher for at least the Spring and Summer terms. Mrs Gould is a highly experienced school leader from the Arthur Terry Learning Partnership with experience of leading in several schools. I know she looks forward to introducing herself to the school community in January.

Mr Averis, Deputy Headteacher will be leaving the school at the end of term to be Headteacher of Boa Digital Academy. Mr Averis has worked at John Willmott School for five years and has been a significant part of the school's improvement journey. We would like to thank Mr Averis for all his service and dedication to improving the lives of the young people at John Willmott and congratulate him on his headship. Ms Richards has been appointed Deputy Headteacher and we very much look forward to seeing the impact she will have on the whole school community.

We also welcome Mr Grove who will be joining us for two terms from The Coleshill School as an Associate Assistant Headteacher and Mrs Spawton as our Senior Pastoral Manager and Safeguarding Lead, both will join the leadership team in the new year.

Arrangements for the end of term – Friday 17 December

Students will arrive in school as normal and will then be dismissed at 12:00pm. School buses will be running at this time. The canteen will be operating a break service so that students who are entitled to free school meals can buy lunch that day. Other students are welcome to purchase food at this time also as there will be no lunch service later in the day. Students should continue using Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests over the holiday and tests are available for collection from main or student reception.

Ready to Learn

Following our successful focus on the punctuality to lessons we will be having a focus on being ready to learn in January. This will include punctuality to lessons, correct uniform, correct equipment, a positive attitude to learning and being engaged in the first phase of the lesson.

Equipment

It is important for all students to have the following:

- Black pens (at least two)
- Green pen
- Pencil(s)
- Ruler
- Scientific calculator

School Uniform

From January 2022 students will be expected to come into school every day in their full and correct [uniform](#) and bring their PE kit in with them on days they have PE. Tracksuit tops, hoodies, sweatshirts, fur style

coats, denim jackets and other fashion jackets are not permitted in school and students will be asked to remove them if they are wearing them, both in the school building and on the playground.

Please note that the uniform rules allow for a small stud in each ear, a ring and watch. Students should not be wearing bracelets or chains and nose studs are not allowed. All jewellery must be removed during PE lessons. Some students are wearing very expensive jewellery to school. This is a concern in case it is lost and it should be left safely at home.

There is a recent fashion for very long and sharp acrylic nails. These nails are not allowed as they present as a risk to other students and make it impossible for students to engage appropriately with practical lessons such as PE, product design and food technology. Please ensure that when your child returns to school in January, they do not have acrylic nails as we will be actively enforcing this school rule for the benefit of all students.

Preloved Uniform

As you plan for next year and replacing uniform that students have grown out of, please do consider donating old uniform to school. Any student who delivers uniform to student reception will receive 10 house points to go towards their overall total and contribute to their house.

Student wellbeing and support

We appreciate that some students may be experiencing a variety of emotions in response to Covid 19, such as anxiety, stress or low mood. We will continue to support these students and their families to ensure that your child feels confident in coming to school.

I hope this information is helpful in outlining our return to school in line with government guidance. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the School on the enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk email.

Staggered Return

As expected, the school will commence on-site **Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing** from Tuesday 4 January up to and including Thursday 6 January. More details on this are attached.

As you will see below, we will operate a **staggered return of students, rather than all students returning to school on the same day** to minimise risk. The staggered return of students, will impact upon when your child begins to attend and arrives at school for the start of school in January. Once they have received their test and had a negative test result, they will remain in school and begin their timetabled lessons.

Date	Arrangements
Tuesday 4 January	<p>Year 13 are invited to attend between 10:00 and 10:30 for their test and return home.</p> <p>Year 12 are invited to attend between 11:00 and 11:30 for their test and return home.</p> <p>Year 11 students should arrive between 13:00 and 14:00 for their test and return home.</p>
Wednesday 5 January	<p>Year 7 students should arrive between 08:45 and 10:00 at their allocated time and remain in school.</p> <p>Year 8 students should arrive between 13:00 and 14:00 at their allocated time and remain in school</p> <p>Year 11, 12 and 13 will attend school at normal time.</p>

Thursday 6 January	<p>Year 9 students should arrive between 08:45 and 10:00 at their allocated time and remain in school.</p> <p>Year 10 students should arrive between 13:00 and 14:00 at their allocated time and remain in school.</p> <p>Year 7, 8, 11, 12 and 13 will attend school at normal time.</p>
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The Process

- **Students must be in full school uniform**
- Students are to **arrive at their designated time**
- When arriving on site for their first LFD test, students should enter via the main gate and enter via reception then go to the back of the dance studio for testing, students will wait in the gyms
- Once tested, students will be directed back to the gym until the test result is received.
- If a student receives a **negative result**, they will go straight to their timetabled lesson.
- If a student receives a **positive result**, parents and carers will be contacted to collect their child, they will be escorted to the allocated isolation room where they must wait to be collected. Parents and carers should then follow the government guidance and book to get their child a PCR test.

Arrival Times

Please see below, the allocated arrival time for your child. These times will be sent as a text reminder on Monday 3 January 2022.

	Tuesday 4 January	Wednesday 5 January	Thursday 6 January
	Years 13, 12 & 11	Years 7 & 8	Years 9 & 10
8:45am		7DS, 7ESM & 7JHA	9BD, 9CEY & 9ELU
9:15am		7JL & 7PCH	9RP & 9SBA
10:00am	Year 13	7SW & 7TW	9SBT & 9SY
11:00am	Year 12		
13:00pm	11AHE, 11AM & 11CHD	8BB & 8CC	10ESK, 10HF & 10LBA
13:30pm	11HSY & 11LDS	8ELB & 8LM	10MH & 10RF
14:00pm	11MCL & 11SB	8MMa & 8UB	10SM & 10WB

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed recently, you may be entitled to free school meals for your children. You can check this by completing the form at this link <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham/>. Even if your child brings a packed lunch and you do not think they will eat school dinners, being eligible will still give them a daily amount of £2.37 to spend in the school canteen which can normally be used to purchase food and/or drinks during the school midmorning break or lunch time.

Term Dates for 2021-2022

Spring Term 2022

Term Starts: Wednesday 5 January – Thursday 17 February

Half Term: Monday 21 February to Friday 25 February

Term Starts: Monday 28 February – Thursday 7 April

Summer Term 2022

Term Starts: Monday 25 April – Friday 27 May

Half Term: Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June

Term Starts: Monday 6 June – Thursday 21 July

Training days

Tuesday 4 January 2022

Friday 18 February 2022

Friday 8 April 2022

Friday 1 July 2022

Thank you for your support and understanding. We hope that you all have an enjoyable Christmas break and look forward to welcoming students back in the New Year.

Yours sincerely

Mr I Smith-Childs**Secondary Strategic Lead**