



10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It would appear that **Covid-19** is very much back on the agenda in the form of the new omicron variant and cases are now confirmed within Tameside. To protect pupils and staff, face masks are still compulsory in communal areas of school and we are ensuring good ventilation throughout the building. The downside to the good ventilation is that some areas of school are now becoming very cold (depending on the external air temperature) and so we are making the following seasonal amendments to uniform rules so that pupils can keep warm.

Non-PE day	Normal temperature range    Very cold	PE day
Shirt and blazer		PE T-shirt and hoodie
Shirt, <b>school jumper</b> and blazer		PE T-shirt, <b>black base layer (under T-shirt)</b> and hoodie.
Shirt, school jumper, <b>school hoodie</b> and blazer		As above plus <b>outdoor coat</b> if area/classroom deemed very cold by staff.
Shirt, school hoodie, blazer and <b>outdoor coat</b> (i.e. a full long-sleeved coat) if area/ classroom deemed very cold by staff.		Coats are not to be worn during PE lessons.

**Please note that non-Hyde hoodies are NOT allowed inside school at all.**

A reminder that we are still strongly advocating regular lateral flow testing for all pupils and we will issue additional kits just prior to the Christmas break. If your child develops any of the symptoms of Covid-19 (new continuous cough, high temperature, loss of/change to sense of taste or smell), they must NOT attend school but should take a PCR test as soon as possible and self-isolate until a result is received.

As mentioned in last week's letter, testing will take place at the start of term; time slots will be issued next week for each year group. Just to recap:

Wednesday 5th January	Years 7 and 11 attend for testing at allocated times (to be advised)	All year groups learning remotely
Thursday 6th January	Years 8 and 10 attend for testing at allocated times (to be advised)	Years 7 and 11 return to school Years 8-10 learning remotely
Friday 7th January	Year 9 attend for testing at allocated times (to be advised)	Year 8 and 10 return to school Year 9 learning remotely
Monday 10th January	All year groups in school as normal.	

**Important:** we will use the parental consent already on record for these tests. If you did not give consent previously but now wish to do so, please follow the link [here](#) and let us know before the end of term.

### **Remote learning**

To ensure that we don't lose out on learning time during this phase of testing, work will be set remotely via Google Classroom for each year group on the days prior to their return. We still have devices that were returned to school in the summer for updates and which have not been collected this term. If your child was in receipt of a laptop from school last year and hasn't brought it home yet this term, now might be a great time for them to collect it. They should ask their Head of Year where to go to do this.

### **Winter Concert**

A huge WELL DONE to all the pupils who took part in last night's brilliant Winter Concert – so lovely to hear such skilful performances! After pupils being unable to perform together like this for the last two years, it was an absolute pleasure to be part of a small but appreciative audience last night and we are so proud of each and every one of them!

### **Food Bank Collections**

Thank you so much for the donations received so far – every single item is very much appreciated and, sadly, very much needed. The two foodbanks that we support are reporting that donations are well below normal levels and so they do need our help. Any contributions are welcome, but especially the following things: tinned veg, tinned meat, tinned pies, sauces, cereals, jars of hotdogs, cereals, squash, tea, coffee, pasta, rice, UHT milk, biscuits, mince pies, chocolates, cakes, sanitary products, nappies and toiletries.

If you can help at all, donations can be sent to the Alpha Centre or the Humanities Office.

If you would like to know more about the foodbanks or you would like to be directed to some support yourself, please do get in touch with us via [admin@hydehighschool.uk](mailto:admin@hydehighschool.uk) and putting FOODBANK in the subject line.

### **Cross Country**

Despite all that Storm Barra had to throw at them on Tuesday, our cross-country team did us proud in the Tameside Championships! The following pupils all made a top 20 finish and have been selected to compete for Tameside in the Greater Manchester Schools Cross Country Championships at Heaton Park on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February: Emilia B, Holly B, Jessica S, Kameron A, Sophie D, Rachel D and Tyler-Jay R 😊

Very well done to all of our runners - especially given the dreadful weather conditions.

I wish all of our pupils and their families a lovely weekend despite the rain.

Best wishes, keep safe.

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Andrea Radcliffe  
Headteacher