

9<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear parents/carers

I am writing to you as I wish to communicate a change of arrangements to you at short notice.

Some of you may have heard that Nick Gibb, Minister for Education, announced yesterday that schools should consider ending term for students on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. The aim of this is to reduce the risk of students and staff having to self-isolate over Christmas, and to minimise the need for schools to carry out contact tracing in the Christmas holidays. For us this means bringing forward our end of term by one day. I am therefore writing to confirm that the last day for students will now be Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Students will be dismissed at the following times:

Year 7 – 12.05pm  
Year 8 – 11.55am  
Year 9 – 11.45am  
Year 10 – 11.35am  
Year 11 – 11.25am  
Sixth form – 10.55am

We will continue to support Test and Trace and would ask that you email [office@uhs.org.uk](mailto:office@uhs.org.uk) if your child tests positive for COVID-19 up until Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Please include your child's name, date when symptoms started, date of confirmed COVID-19 test result and their last day in school. We will inform other parents by email if your child has been a 'close contact' and is required to self-isolate. For clarity, if your child tests positive for COVID-19, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted in this case. Please follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December the staff will be undertaking remote online training.

We all return to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Students are asked to arrive at their usual gates at the following times:

Year 7 – 10.40am  
Year 8 – 10.40am  
Year 9 – 10.45am  
Year 10 – 10.55am  
Year 11 – 10.50am  
Sixth form – 10.55am

I look forward to sharing with you our end of term newsletter later this week.

Yours faithfully



**N B Clemens**  
Principal

Principal: Nigel Clemens BSc, MA

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