

17th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the term comes to an end, we can look back and celebrate the amazing progress our academy continues to make. At a time where the national picture with Ofsted is one of downgrading Outstanding schools, we as stakeholders can all feel a great sense of pride of how Ofsted judged our 'outstanding' performance. This is testament to the ongoing hard work, commitment and dedication from all of our BHA family.

Success is not only measured in Ofsted's terms. Indeed, we have seen our fantastic students return this term to a new normal of school life, where practical lessons and interaction with others have allowed them to fully express themselves. Students have continued to learn and make progress, striving at all times to reach their true potential. This is what real success looks like for all of our Bristnall Hall Academy community. We look forward to this success continuing in 2022.

When we do return in 2022, we will need to be mindful of the staggered start to attending the academy in January. The Department for Education has asked all secondary schools and academies to facilitate one Lateral Flow Test on site for students. In light of this, I have attached details explaining this further and it includes details of our return and testing arrangements. The letter also contains a link for consent to be amended, allowing you to change your previous consent for allowing/not allowing your child to participate in Lateral Flow Testing. The Department for Education has strongly advised for all to engage in ongoing testing at home, as well as this initial test when students return after the festive break.

The arrangements for students to return are as follows:

	8.40am arrival	10.35am arrival
Wednesday 5 th January*	Year 7 return (testing during lessons)	Year 11 return (testing during lessons)
Thursday 6 th January	Year 8 return (testing during lessons)	Year 10 return (testing during lessons)
Friday 7 th January	Year 9 return (testing during lessons)	

**Please note that Breakfast Club will return from Monday 10th January*



Students are to attend on the given day and at the correct time. Once at the academy, students will stay on-site and attend normal lessons until the end of the normal academy day. Each day, another year group/s will also attend so that cumulatively, all children will be back on the academy site by Friday 7th January 2022. Should there be any further updates to the guidance for the education sector over the holidays, I will communicate these accordingly.

January 2022 will also see some disruption on Bristnall Hall Lane as South Staff Water complete emergency repair work to the water mains that serve the academy and local area. This work will commence on Monday 10th January and will be ongoing for approximately 12 weeks. This will mean that Bristnall Hall Lane will become a one-way system between the junctions of Bristnall Hall Road and Queens Road, with traffic running towards Bristnall Hall Road. I have also attached the letter from South Staffs Water which confirms these details and I reiterate their request for the area to be kept clear of vehicles. If students are able to safely travel to the academy alone, please do encourage this as there will be no opportunities to stop and drop-off students on Bristnall Hall Lane due to this repair work.

We wish you all a safe, restful and relaxing time with family and friends over the festive period. We look forward to welcoming our children and young people back after the break they deserve.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K. Uppal', written in a cursive style.

Mr K Uppal
Principal