

NSP/AEK

1 December 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of a most unusual and extremely challenging term I just wanted to write to thank you for the support you have given us since September. I am really proud of the way our students have conducted themselves throughout the term. They have demonstrated maturity, resilience and responsibility in dealing with the Covid situation.

It has been wonderful to see the efforts made by those who have unfortunately had to spend time at home self-isolating, and to see how our Home Learning provision has developed so much in a short space of time. As I write this, our staff are gearing up towards delivering every lesson live, online, so that any students asked to stay at home can have the same experience as those in school. In support of this we have provided our families with laptops, Wi-Fi routers, Free School Meal vouchers and food hampers. We have developed and improved the way we communicate with you, 750 parents are now using our SIMS Parent App. We have reintroduced after school clubs such as PE, Music and Drama, and our Year 11s have sat their first set of mock exams. It's been quite a term!

Friday 18 December 2020 – Last day of term

We will run a normal timetable until period 5 where all year groups will spend the last lesson of the day with their tutors. The school will then close to pupils at the usual staggered finish times. This will be a non-uniform day. Pupils have asked if we can support Christmas Jumper Day in support of the Children's Hospital Charity. I have agreed, and because I know that not everyone will have a Christmas jumper, any form of non-uniform will be acceptable. Pupils are asked to donate £1 if possible.

Monday 4 January 2021 – Return to school

Please ensure your child returns to school fully equipped, including an age appropriate reading book and in full uniform.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful Christmas break and a Happy New Year. It appears we may well be permitted to see our loved ones, friends and family, for a short period of time over the Christmas holiday albeit with restrictions of no more than 3 households together indoors at one time. Please take care and thank you for your ongoing support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Parker'.

Mr N Parker
Headteacher