



04 December 2020

Dear Parent, Carer, Guardian or Student,

I would like to inform you of changes to the 2021 school calendar and the dates when school will be closed due to INSET days and the Year 7 Entrance Tests.

The Year 7 Selective Eligibility Test (SET) which ran last week on Thursday 26 and Friday 27 November was a big challenge but ran very smoothly. I wish to thank the whole school community for adjusting and accommodating the changes to make the test a success.

Government guidance dictates that materials handled between groups "should be cleaned... or... *left unused and out of reach for a period of 48 hours (72 hours for plastics)*". The Year 7 Stage 2 Entrance test papers are marked by staff. As the test papers cannot be cleaned, we intend to store them for a period of at least 65 hours to ensure the safety of staff and prevent the transmission of COVID-19 via the handling of exam papers.

Monday 4 January will remain an INSET day. School will be closed Tuesday 5 January when we will be running the Year 7 Stage 2 Entrance Test for the 2021 cohort. However, teaching staff will deliver all timetabled lessons via remote learning on Tuesday 5 January. The INSET day scheduled for Tuesday 5 January 2021 will move to Friday 8 January when staff will be marking the papers.

In summary:

**Monday 4 January: INSET day. No students in school and no work set for students as per any INSET day. The exception is Year 11 Art students who will attend school for the NEA catch-up.**

**Tuesday 5 January: Stage 2 Test Day. No students in school but all timetabled lessons delivered remotely.**

**Wednesday 6 and 7 January. All students in school and normal lessons take place.**

**Friday 8 January: INSET day. No students in school and no work set for students as per any INSET day. The exception are the Year 11 students sitting mock exams for Biology, Computing and History, these will continue in school as planned.**

Please find the updated term dates on the website which can be access by clicking on this [link](#). I apologise in advance if this causes any inconvenience. There has been considerable uncertainty over running of the entrance test and we are responding to the changing landscape of rules and precautions.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a safe and enjoyable Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. A. Sidhu

Assistant Headteacher