

2nd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will be aware it has been a difficult week for us at Heworth Grange with members of our community testing positive and having to isolate students and staff, which has impacted on particular year groups. The decision to isolate staff and students is never made without due consideration to all the public health guidelines and our risk assessments but unfortunately, we must adhere to regulations. When students re asked to self-isolate we will set remote learning but if that situation arises on the day it will take time for the staff to uplift work onto ClassCharts and I ask you to bear with staff whilst they change from teaching classes and students still in school to setting remote work, thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Covid-19 informative reminder

Could parents and carers please remember that if their child or anyone else in their household has any symptoms of Covid-19 or is awaiting the result of a PCR test your whole household should isolate and students should not come into school.

Some parents and carers have queried why we have come to the decision to isolate year groups in some cases and smaller groups of students in other cases. We work with public health on a case by case basis, taking into consideration seating plans, the start of any symptoms, test dates, the length of time the person who has tested positive was in school during the time they could have been infectious, as well as any social activity outside of school which we have been made aware of. This naturally leads to different numbers of potential close contacts for each positive case.

Close contacts need to isolate for ten days from their last contact with anyone who has tested positive, this is why the dates of isolation required can also differ.

We appreciate that sending home students to isolate in the middle of the day or shortly after arrival to school is not ideal, however we can only react to positive COVID-19 cases when we are informed of them, this could be at any point in the day, as and when test results are processed and parents and carers contact us to make us aware.

Celebration Events

As we draw near to the end of term we turn our attention to celebrating the achievements of our students during the year. Staff will be rewarding students in celebration assemblies for effort in their subjects but also for attendance. We are also nominating students for the Consilum Awards which will take place in the Autumn term. The Year 11 Leavers are also taking part in their #Promfest this evening as a final farewell, which we hope they will enjoy and have treasured memories from seeing one another again.

Assessments

We have carried out final in class assessments for all year groups which will be shared with parents and carers before the end of the school term and give updates on independence and attitude to learning. Although this year has been disrupted students have worked extremely hard either in school or remotely and we want to share that information with parents and carers in readiness for the new academic year.

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Inset Day

Please be aware that we have a planned professional development day on Friday 9th July and school will be closed for training purposes.

As always thank you for your support in these challenging times and please do not hesitate to contact us if you require support in any way.

Yours sincerely

Ms A Denholm Headteacher

