



# BEVERLEY HIGH SCHOOL



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Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I hope that this letter finds you safe and well.

In September, we couldn't even imagine reaching the last day of the Autumn term! That the school has been able to maintain the educational standards that it has for your children within all the COVID constraints is remarkable.

I would like to thank the students who, as I have said previously, have been amazing, adapting to wearing face coverings, cleaning down furniture, wearing extra layers etc etc. They continued to work hard even last Tuesday when the temperature outside was 3 degrees and the wind was howling through doors and windows that had to be left open for ventilation. They have shown themselves to be adaptable, resilient and irrepressible and they are a credit to you.

I would like to thank the staff who have worked tirelessly in very challenging circumstances on behalf of your children, putting aside their own personal anxieties to deliver high quality education and support on a daily basis. Thank you to those parents who have been in touch with me or individually with members of staff to convey their own thanks, your messages really are appreciated. One member of staff, English teacher Mrs Holmes, is leaving Beverley High School today, we wish her well at her new school and thank her for her work over the last 7 years.

We appreciate the trust that parents/carers have placed in us to keep your children safe and well-educated. This half term our attendance each week has been either 94% or 95% which is testament to your commitment and that of your child to their education. I am aware that average secondary school attendance in England this half term has been 80%.

Compared with many schools around the country, I know that we have been very fortunate. In the whole of the term we have had only 6 positive COVID-19 cases that have resulted in groups of students having to self-isolate. The vast majority of students have not had to miss a single day of school since September as a result of COVID-19.

We know that it will be a very different Christmas this year. Sadly COVID-19 doesn't know it's Christmas, so we urge all our students and their families to continue to follow public health guidance on social distancing, hygiene and limiting contacts throughout the holiday period. Unfortunately, January is predicted to be a very difficult month.



Please remember that if your child does test positive for COVID-19 **before Thursday 24 December** I need you to email me at [s.japp@beverleyhigh.net](mailto:s.japp@beverleyhigh.net), as soon as you receive the test result. This is to allow me to undertake school-based contact tracing. From Christmas Eve I do not need to be made aware and NHS track and trace will take over.

This morning I learned that there will be a government announcement at 3.30pm today regarding the start of term in January! I will therefore need to contact you again during the school holiday with information about the return of pupils in the new year. I can only apologise for the lack of information on this but the government has as yet given us no details.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful Christmas-time.

Take care and stay safe

Yours sincerely



Sharon Japp  
Headteacher

