



TANFIELD
SCHOOL

HARD WORK | TRUST | FAIRNESS

16th December 2021

An update from this term and return to school arrangements after Christmas

Dear parent/carer,

I hope you and your family are well as we enter the Christmas period. I would like to start by thanking you for the tremendous support you have given during this term. We have continued to make huge improvements. Whilst it has been a challenge with Covid, our attendance remains significantly above the national and local authority averages:

Tanfield School	90.55%
County Durham	86.5%
National	87.3%

Attendance is so important because if students aren't in school they can't learn. This has a big impact on the results they achieve (see the table below). If your child is in school 100% of the time, on time, they will leave Tanfield School with the results they need to reach their goals.

Attendance	Days Missed Per Year	Weeks Missed Per Year	% Chance of Achieving 5 Grade 5-9
100%	0	0	94.8%
95%	5	1	74.3%
90%	15	3	34.7%
89% and below	17.5 plus	3.5 plus	26.7%

Behaviour has also continued to improve. Students have earned 844,724 positives since the start of term. This is a phenomenal effort and we are very proud of them. Having such good behaviour in lessons has allowed our teachers to teach and our students to learn, which has led to students making rapid progress.

TANFIELD SCHOOL
HEADTEACHER Steven Clough BSc (Hons) NPQH

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Whilst all of our year groups have worked exceptionally hard this term, we are particularly proud of our year 11 students. They have completed 6551 extra hours of learning by attending Get Exam Ready each evening, at an average of 45 hours per student. They have also carried out 1346.2 hours of HegartyMaths and completed 73,541 questions. This is why we are confident that this year group will get the best results this school has ever had.

Return to school arrangements after Christmas

One of the things that has helped us this term is the regular testing of your child on a Sunday and Wednesday evening. This has ensured that positive cases have not come into school, which has kept everyone else safe. As I have said previously, our number one priority is your child's and family's safety. To ensure that we have a safe start to the new term, the DfE has asked schools to test students on site upon their return. Therefore, we are proposing that students come into school on the 4th of January in a staggered way to have their test. **They will only do their test on this day and then return home. They do not need to wear their uniform on this day.**

Students will enter the school through the side gate, which is between the gym and the house area of the school. Members of staff will meet them as they enter. Students will then proceed to enter the gym using the one way system to carry out their test. If their test is negative, they will come into school the next day as normal and follow their usual timetable. However, if your child tests positive, we will contact you to ensure that they do not come into school, stay at home and isolate per the national guidelines. Students are to come in at the following times:

Year 7 - 8.30 to 9.30

Year 8 - 9.30 to 10.30

Year 9 - 10.30 to 11.30

Year 10 - 11.30 to 12.30

Year 11 - 12.30 to 13.30

As you may have seen on the news, cases are rising rapidly and some discussion has begun about whether schools will have to go online after Christmas. To ensure that we are fully prepared for this, can you please complete this form if you are struggling with internet access or devices at home:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdwgSOVFUaqLURh_yAo-Pf4WLVbWu_oQFIhKPa0Q5Mwr8svTA/viewform

I hope that you all have a very enjoyable and safe Christmas break and we look forward to another exciting and safe term on our return in January 2022.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Clough
Headteacher

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