

26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope and trust you and your family are well.

As we draw closer to the final part of term one, I want to inform you and update you regarding several issues.

### INTERNAL EXAMINATION DATES AND STUDY DAYS

Internal examinations commence on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November. Revision lists and support materials are available on Pastoral Google classrooms and have been sent via Parent App.

DATE	YEAR GROUP	STUDY DAY	REPORTS ISSUED
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November -Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2021	8	Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	<i>Prior to Christmas</i>
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November -Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2021	9	Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	<i>Prior to Christmas</i>
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November -Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2021	10	Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	<i>Prior to Christmas</i>
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November -Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2021	11	Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	<i>Prior to Christmas</i>
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December -Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	12	Pupils are only required in school for examinations	<i>January 2022</i>
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December -Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	13 & 14		<i>January 2022</i>

### VACCINATION SCHEDULE: FLU VACCINE AND COVID-19 PROGRAMME

Parents will have already received consent forms for the flu vaccination and will receive consent forms for the COVID-19 vaccination programme on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Only pupils aged 12 to 15 years old with written parental consent will be given the COVID-19 vaccination. Therefore, some Year 8 pupils who are not yet 12 or Year 12 pupils who are 16 and over will not be part of the programme. Pupils who have had a positive covid test result in the previous 28 days will be required to postpone their vaccination until a later date. Dates for the COVID-19 Vaccination are to be confirmed. You will receive a communication regarding this in good time prior to the vaccination.

DATE OF VACCINATION	YEAR GROUP(S)	TYPE OF VACCINATION
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2021	Year 11 and 12	Flu
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Years 8-10	Flu
TBC	Year 12*	COVID
TBC	Years 8-11*	COVID

\*12-15-Year-olds only.

## COVID-19 CONTINGENCY PLAN

You will be aware from recent school communications that COVID-19 is having an impact on our school community with the number of COVID-19 cases in the Mid-Ulster area recorded as the highest in the UK at present. Within our school community positive COVID-19 cases are decreasing and the situation is stabilising. However, given the fluidity of the situation and the lack of availability of substitute teachers, I want to share our contingency plan (attached) should we be in a position whereby the school cannot maintain safe levels of staffing. **I want to stress that every effort will be made to avoid such a situation and it will only be deployed as a last resort.** In the event that we cannot meet safe staffing levels, *some year groups will move to remote learning for short periods of time on a rotational basis.*

## REPORTING A CASE OF COVID-19

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19 it is important that you inform the school. This will allow us to work with the PHA to identify clusters and try to mitigate against the spread of the infection. Please do so by phoning the school office, or by using our online reporting form outside of office hours.

<http://www.sperrincollege.com/positive-case-contact-form.html>

## LATERAL FLOW TESTING PROGRAMME

New Lateral Flow testing kits have been distributed to pupils who are already signed up to the programme. If any parent wishes to opt into the scheme at anytime you can do so by simply completing the following online form:

<http://www.sperrincollege.com/lateral-flow-testing.html>

## CONTACT DETAILS

Parents are advised to ensure the school holds the correct contact details for both telephone and email addresses. Those not yet signed up for ParentApp will need to do so as soon as possible as reports are issued using this platform. If you want to receive a paper copy of a report, you must make your request in writing to Mr Small, Head of Assessment before Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021.

## CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Thank you for the generosity already shown in supporting our Christmas Hamper Appeal. I encourage you to continue to support this worthwhile cause. All items will be donated to the Salvation Army and St Vincent De Paul to help those in need in our community.

## UPCOMING KEY DATES

### *Year 12 Cinema Trip*

Year 12 will be able to enjoy a post exams cinema trip on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

### *Christmas Dinner*

Christmas dinner will take place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

### *Year 8 Panto*

Year 8 are scheduled to visit the Millennium Forum for their Christmas Panto on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

### ***Year 12 Social***

The Year 12 Social will take place on the evening of Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December in school.

### ***Wellness Day 2***

All pupils will enjoy a Christmas Wellness day on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. It will be a non-uniform (Christmas Jumper) day. Pupils are asked to contribute £1 (via ParentPay) - monies collected will go to charity and school funds.

### ***Christmas Holidays***

The school will close at **12 noon on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** and reopen on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you require any clarification on the above issues.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B.A. Heron". The signature is written in a cursive style with a vertical line extending downwards from the end of the name.

B.A.Heron

Principal

B.Ed. (Hons)PQH(NI)M.Ed.



## COVID-19 CONTINGENCY PLAN - PARENTAL GUIDE

### CONTEXT

As a result of the pandemic, there are unprecedented pressures on all aspects of school life for pupils, teaching and non-teaching staff. Ensuring safe staffing levels in most schools in Northern Ireland has been made extremely challenging by a significant shortage of substitute teachers. In the event of the school being unable to meet or maintain safe staffing levels the procedures detailed below will be enacted.

ISSUE	ACTION	COMMUNICATION
Pupil with a positive COVID-19 result or isolating KS3	If well enough to do so, pupils complete contingency work on Google classroom.	Parents inform the school either by telephone or COVID-19 report form.
Pupil with a positive COVID-19 result or isolating KS4	If well enough to do so, pupils complete bespoke work on Google classroom based on GCSE specifications.	Parents inform the school either by telephone or COVID-19 report form.
Pupil with a positive COVID-19 result or isolating KS5	If well enough to do so, pupils complete bespoke work on Google classroom based on AS/A Level specifications.  Pupils join classes at normal timetable times via Google Meet.	Parents inform the school either by telephone or COVID-19 report form.
Internal examinations missed due to COVID-19 or isolation.	An alternative examination schedule will be developed for pupils who have missed examinations.	Teachers and teaching assistants will work with individual pupils to ensure examinations are completed.
Staff absence/ sickness causing a delay to examination marking or report writing.	Staff will complete work when they return - this could result in delays to the reporting schedule.	Letter sent via Parent App and text message.
School not able to meet or maintain safe staffing levels.	A Year group or groups will be identified for home/remote learning for a short period on a rotational basis.	Letter sent via Parent App and text message.
School not able to provide full catering service.	Pupils with an entitlement to FSM will be provided with a drink, soup, and sandwiches at lunchtime only.  All other pupils will be required to bring a packed lunch.	Letter sent via Parent App and text message.