

Ref: KHO/102/21-22

17 December 2021



Grange Street  
Alfreton  
Derbyshire  
DE55 7JA

Dear Parents/Carers

As we complete our final full week of this term, we are moving into a number of more festive activities next week. We will be walking up to St Martin's church for our annual Christmas carol service on Tuesday. Please remind all pupils to bring a warm coat and umbrella to be able to be comfortable with all types of weather.

We will be finishing slightly earlier at 2pm on Wednesday 22 December for the end of term. The buses have been booked for this earlier time. Any pupils who wish to remain at school until 3.30pm will be supervised in the library, please let us know via [info@davidnieper.academy](mailto:info@davidnieper.academy)

We continue to work hard to keep the academy as safe as possible for everyone. All pupils are encouraged to test twice a week including the evening before they return to the academy. Pupils have been provided with test kits that they can use if they are going to any gatherings or events over the holidays. We will continue to monitor the situation over the holidays and will be in touch with any updates if necessary.

I hope that you all have a lovely holiday.

### **Christmas Concert**

On Monday evening we welcomed parents and families to the academy to watch this year's Christmas Concert. We were entertained by the academy choir, band and dance groups, including solo performances, in a whole host of different pieces. It was wonderful to see such an array of talent, with the pupils confidently performing on stage. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to our audience for joining us for what was a lovely evening.

Thank you to all staff who supported our Christmas concert, especially Miss Pell and Miss Rennie who organised the evening and spent time rehearsing with pupils.



### **Year 11 & Sixth Form – Mock Exams**

Well done to all Year 11 and Sixth Form students who have completed their mock exams over the last two weeks. The mocks have given students a better understanding of how best to revise and a feel for what taking the real exams will be like, so making everything a little more familiar ready for the summer exams.

Results will be handed out on our Mock Results Day which is planned for Friday 14 January.

### **Presentation Evening – Monday 20 December**

On Monday 20 December our former Year 11 and Year 13 students and parents have been invited to attend our Presentation Evening, which will take place in the Main Hall, 6pm for refreshments, 6.30-7.30pm for the presentation of certificates and awards. The evening will allow us to celebrate a successful set of exam results and present subject awards to our former Year 11 students. We are delighted that Reverend Paul Pritchard, a Trustee of the academy, is our guest speaker for the event. Please ask former students to RSVP to their invitation if they have not already done so to confirm their attendance and the number of guests who will be joining them on the evening.

## Academy Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 21 December

Following our Carol service at St Martin's Church we will once again be sitting down to enjoy a full Christmas lunch together. The two course Christmas lunch is priced at our usual £2.50, and pupils have now ordered Christmas lunch or a grab & go bag (sandwiches). Please be reminded that on this day we will not be serving hot snacks, so any pupils who have not placed an order will need to bring a packed lunch on this date.

## Calculators

The academy has paid for and provided scientific calculators to all pupils. In return, pupils are expected to bring them into the academy each day. The calculators are not only used in Maths but in other subject areas too. The Maths faculty will be checking calculators over the final week of term, and we ask that you encourage pupils to spend some time over Christmas searching for calculators that have been misplaced.

Replacement calculators are available to purchase from Main Reception for £5 each.

## Parents Evenings – Sixth Form, Wednesday 12 January

Sixth Form Parents Evening will take place on Wednesday 12 January, 4-6pm. This will be a face-to-face event in the Main Hall, which provides an important opportunity to discuss your son/daughter's progress with subject teachers. To book your appointments visit <https://davidnieper.parenteveningsystem.co.uk/>

## Nasal flu vaccination – 13 January 2022

Please refer to the NHS letter from the Immunisation team for full information about the vaccination. The team will be in the academy on Thursday 13 January 2022 to provide the nasal flu vaccine to those pupils with parental consent.

## Warm Clothes – PE lessons

As the weather is becoming increasingly cold, please ensure that all pupils wear warm clothing for their outdoor PE lessons. Academy hoodies may of course be worn, but thermal layers may also be worn under the academy PE shirt and black tracksuit bottoms/leggings. These items can be purchased from any shop or supermarket. However, if you prefer the additional items below have now been added to our uniform range and can be purchased from our provider Schoolwear Solutions <https://www.schoolwearsolutions.com/>

PE Training trousers	24/26 to 28/30" waist	£16.99
PE Training trousers	30/32 to 38/40" waist	£19.99
PE Leggings	24/26 to 28/30" waist	£14.99
PE Leggings	30/32 to 38/40" waist	£17.99

## Lost Property

We do still have a large amount of lost property in school. Unfortunately, all items which remain unclaimed by the end of the term will be taken to the charity shop over the Christmas break. Pupils can claim items from Main Reception. Please do remember to name items, so they may be returned to their owners.

## Enrichment Update

A reminder to keep checking our website for the latest enrichment opportunities which is updated weekly and can be found by clicking here [Enrichment Opportunities](#)

## Data Collection

May we remind everyone that it is important that contact details for all pupils and parents are kept up to date. Please inform the main office or email [info@davidnieper.academy](mailto:info@davidnieper.academy) to provide an update for any of your personal contact information.

### **Christmas Holiday activities**

School age children living in Derbyshire who receive benefit related free school meals will be able to take part in free Christmas holiday activities available at community centres and schools across the county. The free sessions include a healthy meal at breakfast or lunchtime and seasonal activities including trips to attend pantomimes, outdoor activity centres, concerts as well as sports and craft clubs. Across the county there are more than 19,000 free places available at 80 venues four days per week.

The sessions are all free for families who claim benefit related free school meals. Places are available on a first come, first served basis, with a limited number available for any school age children living in the county.

A limited number of food and activity hampers will be available for children who are unable to attend the face-to-face sessions.

Registration is easy – parents can visit the [it's about me derbyshire website](#) to find out more. The activities are funded by the Department for Education holiday activities and food programme (HAF). If you have any questions, please email: [HAF.Enquiries@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:HAF.Enquiries@derbyshire.gov.uk)

### **Free food vouchers for low-income families provided by the Derbyshire County Council Household Support Fund**

As part of a national scheme, Derbyshire County Council is providing free food vouchers worth a minimum of £50 to families in need to pay for food, energy, and essential living costs. Full details about the scheme are available on our website at [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/householdsupportfund](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/householdsupportfund)

Distribution of the vouchers by text or email will start in late January and may continue into February. *If parents and carers do not receive a voucher by the 18 February 2022, please email [HCS.HSFVouchers@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:HCS.HSFVouchers@derbyshire.gov.uk)*

For any further information about the voucher scheme, including other support available to families facing financial hardship please visit [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/householdsupportfund](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/householdsupportfund)

### **Guidance for parents and carers on online sexual harassment and keeping children safe online**

The Children's Commissioner is today launching a guide for parents and carers on online sexual harassment and how they can support children to stay safe online. Please click on the link to visit the website [Guide](#)

### **January staggered start to allow for Covid testing**

Further to recent Government announcements, each pupil (currently with parental consent) will be tested in school at the start of the new term in January. As before, our intention is to allow this to take place in the least disruptive manner to allow a smooth start to the new term and we ask that:

- Year 10 & 11 and Sixth Form - arrive for 8.30am on Monday 10 January 2022 – tests will take place and normal lessons will begin
- Year 7, 8 & 9 - arrive for 8.30am on Tuesday 11 January 2022 (they should not attend on 10 January). Testing will take place and normal lessons will continue.

If you have previously provided consent, you do not need to provide this again. However, if consent was not provided and you wish for your son/daughter to be included in the process, please click on this link [Testing Consent Form](#) Can we please ask that all pupils test using a lateral flow test the evening before returning to the academy in January and we advise all pupils to test prior to attending any gatherings or events over the Christmas holidays to help keep everyone safe and well.

We will return in January to a **Week B timetable**.

## Vaccinations for 12–15-year-olds

As yet, we have not been provided with any further information regarding a second dose against COVID-19 for 12-15-year-olds. As soon as anything is confirmed, we will let you know.

## Covid-19 Procedures

We continue to follow the Department for Education guidance for schools and will continue to update the guidance in line with Government and Public Health England advice.

Pupils will continue to receive testing kits to take home, but kits can also be ordered directly for delivery to your home address - [Order lateral flow tests](#)

The guidance states that pupils should use the test twice each week. We would like pupils to test on a Sunday and on a Wednesday. **If the test is positive, please do not attend school but book a PCR test and self-isolate until the result is confirmed.** Please do contact school to let us know the situation via [info@davidnieper.academy](mailto:info@davidnieper.academy)

Pupils must not attend school if they are displaying any Covid-19 symptoms. The most common symptoms of coronavirus (Covid-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

## Upcoming Trips and Events

Monday 20 December	Former Year 11 & 13 GCSE & A level Certificate Presentation Evening, 6pm
Tuesday 21 December	Christmas Church Carol Service and Christmas lunch (During the school day for pupils and staff)
Wednesday 12 January	Sixth Form Parents Evening
Thursday 13 January	Nasal Flu vaccinations

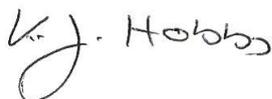
## Academic Year 2021/2022

Wednesday 22 December	Last day of term, 2pm finish
Thursday 23 December	INSET Day – academy closed to pupils
Friday 24 December to Friday 7 January	Christmas holiday
Monday 10 January	Year 10, 11 & Sixth Form pupils return
Tuesday 11 January	Year 7, 8 & 9 pupils return
Wednesday 12 January	Sixth Form Parents Evening
Thursday 13 January	Nasal flu vaccinations
Monday 21 to Friday 25 February	Half-term holiday
Monday 28 February	INSET Day – academy closed

If we can help or support in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Please email [info@davidnieper.academy](mailto:info@davidnieper.academy) and a member of staff will be in touch.

Have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully



Dr K Hobbs  
Headteacher