



OLD BUCKENHAM  
HIGH SCHOOL

*Be the best we can be*

15<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of a long and busy term I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the continued support for our school. Although we have had to cancel or postpone many things due to the ongoing issues caused by Covid, there is still much to celebrate, which is reflected in the latest edition of the Gazette which will be published on Friday. I would like to draw your attention to the following:

#### Staffing

Mrs Catherine Boothe starts in January as our new SENDCo and member of the Senior Leadership Team. Mrs Boothe is very experienced and will add enormous value to our school. Mr Cowley and Mrs Jermy are leaving us in December and we are very grateful for their contribution to OBHS.

#### Uniform

Overall, the uniform of our students has been very good this term, can I remind all students that I expect to see everyone in full school uniform in January. There is a slight modification to the PE uniform, skorts will no longer be available to purchase from Birds of Dereham and will be phased out over the coming months.

#### Covid arrangements

The current advice and guidelines around Covid may change, however, from what we know at the moment the school is required to test students at the start of the Spring Term. The tests will be undertaken by normal school staff and will require parental permission. Please use the link or QR code below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/wfF2fsTV5U>



Headteacher Mr Andrew Fell Address Abbey Road, Old Buckenham, Norfolk, NR17 1RL  
Tel 01953860233 Email [office@obhs.co.uk](mailto:office@obhs.co.uk) Website [www.obhs.co.uk](http://www.obhs.co.uk)

## Be the best we can be

In order to ensure we are able to undertake the tests according to the guidance, and to ensure a smooth start to the term, the 5<sup>th</sup> January will be dedicated to on-site testing. This means that students only need to attend school on the 5<sup>th</sup> for their designated timeslot (see below). The school buses will not be in operation, so parents and carers will need to organise transport to and from school for their child(ren). The Spring Term will start officially on the 6<sup>th</sup> January for all students. Online learning for the 5<sup>th</sup> January will be set via G4S.

### Testing Arrangements – 5<sup>th</sup> January:

9.00 – 10.00 – students with surnames A-F

10.15 – 11.15 – students with surnames G-M

11.30 – 12.30 – students with surnames N-S

1.30 – 2.30 – students with surnames T-Z

It is important to note that all other arrangements will continue to be in place. These include:

- The wearing of face coverings on all school transport and in communal areas;
- Adhering to in-school measures including the one-way system and designated food and social areas for year groups at lunchtimes;
- Regular lateral flow tests at home, at least twice a week;
- Sensible precautions including the use of hand sanitisers and social distancing where appropriate;
- Informing the school of any symptoms in students or family members.

I am sure if we follow the above and all government guidelines we will be able to continue to provide the safest environment as possible.

**It is very important that parents/carers keep abreast of Government guidance and up to date school information available via our website as the situation and arrangements may need to change at short notice.**

I understand that it can be disheartening that things continue to feel far from normal, so I would like to finish on a positive note. This term has been evident of how fantastic our students are. They are credit to the school, and I am proud of how the whole school community continues to work together so well to support one another, and *Be the best we can be*. Have a very Happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely,



Mr A Fell  
Headteacher

