



# Blackburn Central HIGH SCHOOL

Blackburn Central  
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Dear families,

## Arrangements for Christmas 2021

As we come to the Christmas holidays I want to take a moment to say thank you to you all, to wish you well, and to confirm some of the practical details around managing cases and test results during the break. Please note that we finish at 12.45pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

This has been one of the most challenging terms any of us will have known. The spirit, trust, and goodwill of our families have been remarkable. Thank you.

Since the emergence of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in March, schools have played a key role in continuing to serve communities whilst implementing 'contain' measures whenever a positive case has been identified in school. This work hasn't stopped when school holidays arrive. As we approach the Christmas holidays, we hope it is helpful just to outline the requirements for pupils who test positive during the holiday period.

School will only need to be notified about a child testing positive for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms **before midnight on Sunday 20 December 2020, if they were last in school on Friday 18 December.**

If your child develops any COVID-19 symptoms on either **Saturday 19 or Sunday 20 December 2020 families must** arrange for children to be tested immediately.

You must also contact us if your son/daughter shows any Covid symptoms, please use this email address [COVIDReporting@bchs.co.uk](mailto:COVIDReporting@bchs.co.uk).

If they test positive **you must then contact the school** again by email [COVIDReporting@bchs.co.uk](mailto:COVIDReporting@bchs.co.uk) This email inbox will be monitored daily between (9.00 and 12.00)

School will then trace and contact all students that your son /daughter may have had contact with to ask them to isolate for up to 14 days.

If your child develops symptoms from **Monday 21 December 2020, you do not need to contact school** as school does not need to take further action.

If all families can work with us on this approach, it should mean that staff and families will be aware of any self-isolation requirements by Monday 21 December 2020. Beyond that date, you will just need to engage with the NHS test & trace service.

As a reminder, **the main symptoms of coronavirus are:**

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature);
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual);

Aspire and achieve

- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.
- Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these.

Thank you for your continued support, wishing you a safe and peaceful Christmas break. We look forward to welcoming all our students back to school on **4<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shae Hussain', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs S Hussain  
Headteacher