

Harpurhey Alternative Provision School

c/o Christ Church Parish Hall, Water Street, Harpurhey, Manchester, M9 5US

Telephone: **07432 506 703**.

December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

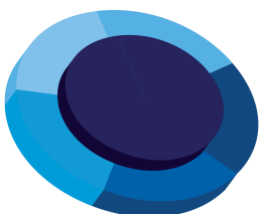
I hope this letter finds you safe and well as we approach the end of the Autumn term 2022 and prepare for the well-earned Christmas holiday. I wanted to send you an update with some important information. Firstly, we have said this regularly throughout the last year but we remain very proud of our students again this term and of the way they continue to adapt to all expectations. Lessons are calm and purposeful, and students are keen to learn and are showing good working habits. ***"It is not where you start but how high you aim that matters for success."*** NELSON MANDELA

Year 11 mock exams take place almost as soon as we return in January. I know that parents and carers of Year 11 students will already be aware of this. Whilst these are mock exams, in many ways they are just as important as the real exams in the summer. This is because teachers use the results to predict grades for the summer exams and they are also used by college and apprenticeship providers to determine whether places are offered. It is important that students revise over the Christmas break.

Standards of **uniform** have been good. Please remember that we recognise how difficult times might be for our families, particularly as the weather cools and energy bills rise. We understand if there is a need to occasionally substitute an item of uniform, all you need to do is let us know. Can I please remind you that jeans are not acceptable.

Student **attendance** is mainly good. Inevitably, as we have approached the end of the autumn term and enter the winter period, a range of seasonal illnesses have had an impact. We ask for your support in ensuring students attend. The only times students should be absent from school is if they are so unwell, they need to go to hospital or to see the doctor, if they have a stomach bug causing sickness or diarrhoea or if they have a very high temperature.

Mobile phones, in particular the use of social media on mobile phones, is proving a challenge that some students can't manage to resist whilst in school. As you are aware, we have an acceptable use policy for mobiles reflecting our desire to give the responsibility of having a phone at school to the students. In consultation with several groups of parents/carers, I have been supported in the decision to ask students to hand in their mobiles on arrival to school. The phones will be stored securely and returned when they leave. I know that you will all support this approach with phones and understand that it is a condition of entry to school to follow this rule. I have left the current acceptable use policy on our website, it will be updated on 3rd January 2023 – please discuss this with your child before they return on 4th January.



Operated by: Manchester Collegiate Education Trust
Company number :07744158

Harpurhey Alternative Provision School

c/o Christ Church Parish Hall, Water Street, Harpurhey, Manchester, M9 5US

Telephone: **07432 506 703**.

We begin the Christmas holiday on Friday 16th December at 12.00pm. Students have told me how much they value a non-uniform day, so uniform won't be required on the 16th December. We will not be collecting any contributions from you for this non uniform day, given the cost of living and because Christmas being expensive for our families.

We **return to school at 8.45 am on Wednesday 4th January 2023.**

Thank you for your continuing support, working closely together is the key to supporting our students. As with all our work, should you need any advice, guidance or support, please don't hesitate to contact us and we will do all we can to help out.

With every good wish for a happy and healthy festive season and New year.

Best wishes & stay safe.



Michael Hill
HEADTEACHER

