

IMPORTANT HEALTH NEWS

Covid-19 Vaccination for 12 to 15 Year Olds – Monday 11th October

IMPORTANT – RESPONSE REQUIRED

You will be aware that the NHS Immunisations Team will be in College on **Monday 11th October** to roll out the Covid-19 vaccination programme for 12 to 15 year olds. If you have not already completed the online consent form, please do so before the deadline of 12pm Sunday 10th October. **The form has options to consent to or decline the vaccine, so parents are asked to complete the form, whatever their choice (please see link below).**

The NHS will be collecting consent information and the College will not be informed of who has given consent or not. If there is 'nil consent' your child will not be vaccinated. The nurses will only vaccinate those who have given consent. Therefore, it is important that you discuss this with your child so they are aware if they have consent.

[Letter and Online Consent Form](#)

IMPORTANT DATES
Monday 11th October
Covid-19 Vaccinations for 12 to 15 year olds
Friday 15th October
Half term holiday commences
(students depart at 1540hrs)
CONTACT US:
General communications to:
admin@hockerill.com
Absence communications to:
absence@hockerill.com

Continue regular testing

The new Lateral Flow Device tests (LFD) will be distributed throughout form rooms on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th October. We have been provided with these new tests which are **nasal swab only**. Students should have enough tests until they return to College after the half term holiday. It is important that they complete a test the day before they return to the College. If anyone finds they do not have enough LFD tests during half term, they are available from pharmacies, or you can order them from [HERE](#)

Report LFD Test Results to the College

[Report test result to school](#)

Reporting LFD Test Results to the Government

<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

If you or your child are unable to test at home and you require some assistance from the College, we are able to offer a limited onsite testing provision, please contact the College for further details and to book an appointment via admin@hockerill.com

A reminder of the Common Symptoms

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

What to do if you or your child has symptoms

If your child has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, even if they're mild:

1. Get a PCR test (test that is sent to a lab) as soon as possible: [Get a PCR test to check for COVID-19 on GOV.UK](#)
2. Your child should stay at home and not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get a negative test result – they can only leave home to have the test. Check if you and anyone else your child lives with need to self-isolate. [Check if you and anyone else your child lives with need to self-isolate](#)

Contact Tracing

If a child tests positive for COVID-19, NHS Test and Trace will now contact close contacts directly, replacing communications from the school. Please engage with NHS Test and Trace if they contact you about your child, you will not be contacted or advised by the school about what steps you need to take.

HOCKERILL NEWS

Mr Rhys Jones

Mr Jones has been Assistant Principal at Hockerill since 2018 and has overseen our work on Curriculum and Quality of Teaching as well as teaching Geography in all Key Stages. He is a very able senior leader and it was no surprise to us therefore that he has been successful in becoming the head of the new Avanti Grange secondary school that will open in Bishop's Stortford next year. This is a great opportunity and achievement and we wish Mr Jones every success for the future. His new post will start from January 1st 2022 and we will announce who will be taking over Mr Jones' teaching groups in due course. Mr Jones' has sent this this message to the community:



"In January, I will take up the post of Principal at Avanti Grange. To lead a new school in Bishop's Stortford is a once in a lifetime opportunity and one I am very much looking forward to. I would like to thank all the staff and parents at Hockerill for their support over the last 4 years. During my time at Hockerill I have worked with many exceptional colleagues and students, learning a huge amount. I will continue to work closely with Mr Woods and the rest of the Senior Leadership Team through BSET and wish the College every success in the future. "

CANCELLED

Interact Club – Glow in the Dark Disco

Due to the current rise in positive Covid cases within the College, the Interact Club have made the difficult decision to cancel the Year 7 and 8 Glow in the Dark Disco, which was due to be held on Friday 8th October.

Candlelit Supper

Just a reminder that the Candlelit Supper will take place on Friday 8th October at 7 for 7.30pm in St Albans Hall.

YEAR 10

Year 10 Information Evening

If you were unable to attend the Year 10 Information Evening, please [click this link](#) to view a recording of the event:

YEAR 11

Year 11 Information Evening

If you were unable to attend the Year 11 Information Evening, please click this [link](#) to view a recording of the event:

Please be reminded that the deadline for applications for Sixth Form is **Wednesday 15th December 2021**.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

The World Health Organisation (WHO) have declared that this Sunday is 'World Mental Health Day'. As a school we take student's mental health very seriously and so this is an opportunity to remind the whole community of the need to consider mental health issues among young people. WHO puts it like this:

Adolescence (10-19 years) is a unique and formative time. Multiple physical, emotional and social changes, including exposure to poverty, abuse, or violence, can make adolescents vulnerable to mental health problems. Promoting psychological well-being and protecting adolescents from adverse experiences and risk factors that may impact their potential to thrive are critical for their well-being during adolescence and for their physical and mental health in adulthood

More information about World Mental Health Day and mental health in adolescents can be found [here](#)

Herts Mind Network

On Friday 15th October at 10am - 12, Herts Mind Network will be delivering their first Spot the Signs – Youth Suicide Prevention Training for Parents, Carers and Family Members. The aim of this training is to help parents, carers and family members to recognise when their young people are experiencing suicidal thoughts and provide next steps support, along with practical advice, information and signposting.

If you are a parent, carer or family member over 18 and living or working in Hertfordshire, please visit the following links for more information and to sign-up for your FREE space:

<https://www.hertsmindnetworkcyp.org/training-workshops/spot-the-signs-emotional-wellbeing/spot-the-signs-youth-suicide-prevention-parents-carers-family-members/>

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/spot-the-signs-youth-suicide-prevention-course-for-parents-families-tickets-173551135117>

*Please note that this training session is not able to provide support those who have a child that continues to attempt suicide, or who have previously been bereaved by suicide.

If your child has recently made a suicide attempt but a mental health specialist hasn't assessed them, they need to be urgently assessed. You can ask for an urgent on-the-day appointment with your GP, or call your local NHS helpline or 111 for urgent advice.

If you've lost a child to suicide, please visit SOBS (Survivors of Bereavement By Suicide) for further support: www.uksobs.org

If you are worried that your child is at risk of making a suicide attempt or seriously hurting themselves, or it doesn't feel like they're safe, don't wait to attend this training. Call 999 for an ambulance or take them to Accident & Emergency (A&E).

For further information about the training, please contact Jess Whittaker – jessica.whittaker@hertsmindnetwork.org

Jessica Whittaker

Spot the Signs Emotional Wellbeing Awareness

Children and Young People's (CYP) Coordinator

