

GENERAL NEWS

Traffic on Saturday 20th November

Please be aware that part of the A1060 London Road will be closed from 0800hrs on Saturday 20th November to 1800hrs on Sunday 21st November. This road is near the Hockerill lights junction and may affect your journey to College.

12-15 COVID-19 vaccination programme

12-15 year olds can get the COVID-19 vaccine at a local vaccination centre as well as at school. Clinics are running after school and weekends.

Book an appointment at <https://nhs.uk/covid-vaccine-children> or call 119. Some walk-ins are available, find out more at <https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk>

Second dose of Covid-19 vaccination for 16 to 17 year olds

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has advised that **all healthy 16 to 17 year olds should be offered a second dose of the Pfizer vaccine**. The decision is based on a review of the latest evidence and has been accepted by the Government.

The second vaccine dose should be given 12 weeks or more following the first vaccine dose. For those in this age group who have had the COVID-19 infection, the second vaccine dose should be given 12 weeks or more following the first vaccine dose, or 12 weeks following a positive COVID-19 test result – whichever is later. Those 'at risk' will continue to be offered a second dose 8 weeks after their first dose.

16 and 17 year olds will not be vaccinated through the schools programme, but through vaccination centres, community pharmacies and GP led primary care network sites. The national booking service will be available from Monday 22 November for 16 and 17 year olds to book their vaccine.



Contingency arrangement for exams in summer 2022

Last week the government confirmed [contingency arrangements](#) to support students in the unlikely event that exams in England cannot go ahead next year due to the pandemic.

The government intends for exams to take place next summer. But if they cannot go ahead safely or fairly, due to the pandemic, contingency arrangements will be in place to ensure that schools and colleges are well prepared to enable students to achieve their qualifications.

Following a consultation, the Department for Education and Ofqual, the qualifications regulator, have confirmed students will receive teacher assessed grades based on a range of their work, similar to this summer.

It is important therefore that students treat all assessed work as potentially liable to be used to generate final exam grades in the event that exams are cancelled.

Please find [this letter](#) written to students from Jo Saxton, Ofqual's Chief Regulator.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Saturday 20th November**
Sixth Form Open Morning (further details below)
- Friday 3rd December**
Carol Service
All Saints' Church (1930hrs)
- Wednesday 8th December**
Year 13 Parent/Teacher Online Consultation
- Saturday 11th December**
Christmas Show
- Monday 13th December**
Christmas Show
- Tuesday 14th December**
Christmas Show (boarding community only)
- Wednesday 15th December**
End of term (students depart at 1240)
- CONTACT US:**
General communications to: admin@hockerill.com
Absence communications to: absence@hockerill.com

HOCKERILL NEWS

Medication in College

A reminder to parents that it is College policy that students do not bring medication into College without the prior knowledge and agreement of the College Health Centre.

Any prescribed medication which needs to be taken during the College day must be brought to the College Health Centre in the first instance, accompanied by a completed [Parental Agreement to Administer Medication Form](#), which can be downloaded from the College website under Boarding/Health Centre.

Over-the-counter pain relief is available to all students from the Health Centre, thereby negating the need for students to carry their own paracetamol or ibuprofen.

Events

The Music Department is busy preparing for the following events which we hope will go ahead (Covid-19 restrictions permitting):

Carol Service

This event will be held at All Saints' Church on Friday 3rd December beginning at 1930hrs. This is a non-ticket event, you are welcome to come along and listen to the service.

Christmas Shows

The Christmas Shows are taking place on Saturday 11th, Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th December. All shows begin at 1900hrs. Tickets will be available from Reception from Tuesday 23rd November. Please be aware that tickets are not available for the Tuesday 14th December as this performance is for the boarding community only.

If your child is taking part in any of these events and has been involved in the Christmas Music Club rehearsals this term, please find some important information [here](#).



YEAR 11

Sixth Form Open Morning | Saturday 20th November

You will be aware that the College Sixth Form Open Morning will be taking place on Saturday between 0830 and 1220hrs. If you not already registered for Taster Classes, there will be an opportunity to do this on the day.

Car parking on the College site is extremely limited and we would advise anyone living locally to make use of nearby car parks and walk to the College. Please be aware of the road closure at the Hockerill lights junction which may affect your journey to the event.

BOARDING NEWS

Boarding Open Week

Planning for events during Boarding Open Week are underway and I can confirm that currently the plan outlined below will be going ahead. Albeit it is important to note that this will be under constant review and should our number of Covid cases increase, the arrangements would be reviewed and we would consult with Hertfordshire as to whether we needed to reconsider whether these social events should go ahead as scheduled. If parents would like to book flights or make arrangements, I would advise that these are flexible bookings at this time. The College will give parents as much notice as possible if it is deemed unwise to host these events.

Date	Event/s
Saturday 11th December	Christmas Show (Concert delivered by the Music Department)
Monday 13th December	Afternoon tea in refectory Christmas Show
Tuesday 14th December	Buffet in Refectory Christmas Show (tickets for Boarding parents only)
Wednesday 15th December	End of term assembly (finish College at 12:40)

An email communication will be sent out to all Boarding Parents regarding these events and how to book tickets. Please contact Mrs Lindley via lindley@hockerill.com if you do not receive this specific communication.

Mr W Conolly

Director of Boarding

International Boarders

I would encourage parents to start making plans for international boarders travelling home over Christmas. Ensuring that you are aware of and understand the requirements for testing and/or vaccination. A reminder that it is the responsibility of parents to ensure they are aware of these requirements. For specific information regarding travel from England, I would recommend checking the specific details of the country your child is travelling to via the FCO website:

[Foreign travel advice - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Diversity in Roding

Since the beginning of the year, we have noticed that the Roding House information boards have been a little bare and not reflecting what we, as a boarding house stand for. So, us girls, decided to update them. On these boards we will present the themes of feminism, body positivity, LGBTQ+ community, ethnicities from around the world and other topics that we as a family represent. We want people to come into Roding and believe that it is not just a house but a thriving home that where people look after each other and celebrates each other's differences. Hopefully, by upgrading these boards we will achieve this.



Roding students

MUSIC NEWS

Soloists Concerts: Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th November

A Virtual Soloists Concert will take place online on Wednesday 24th November at 19:00hrs.

Here's [the link](#) to watch this live event:

An additional face-to-face Soloists Concert will take place at 16:00hrs in the Chapel on Thursday 25th November.

WELLBEING

Online Safety Workshop for Parents of Young People aged 11-18

Aspects are offering a workshop which will explore and discuss issues related to sexting so that parents can become confident in dealing with incidents including:

- Current laws
- Risky behaviours or situations
- Preventative conversations with young people
- Responding positively and constructively to an incident
- Strategies, online safety resources and where to go for help

[See here](#) for further information.

The National Sleep Helpline

The National Sleep Helpline helps anyone with sleep issues including adults, parents and young people. The helpline is available from 7pm and 9pm, Sunday to Thursday on 03303 530 541.

Poor sleep can affect us and it can be a major stress for parents whose own sleep can be impaired by their children's difficulties getting to sleep, staying asleep or staying in their own bed, leading to greater stress.

Having a sleep issue is surprisingly common. At any given time this affects up to 40% of adults and 50% of children (this rises to 80% with a SEND diagnosis). These problems are typically persistent and do not resolve themselves without intervention.

Families often don't know where to seek help and yet issues can often be nipped in the bud with basic and accessible interventions.

To speak to a trained sleep advisor, telephone 03303 530 541

Supporting Links is a local Social Enterprise, providing parenting support through courses, workshops and 1:1 mentoring of parents and children throughout Hertfordshire and the surrounding area.

They value the knowledge and experience that every parent brings, and they aim to build on those skills to enable parents to feel more confident and positive about their own abilities. They can help you understand your child's behaviour and develop effective strategies that really work to improve behaviour and communication, and build the foundations for successful family relationships.

Alongside their usual Parenting Courses, Supporting Links are pleased to be offering 7 workshops. These are open to parents and carers of children with ASD and/or ADHD across Hertfordshire, funded by the Local Authority. Further information can be [found here](#)

