



# BELFAST MODEL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Principal: Ms P Stuart, B. Ed, PQH NI, M. Ed

December 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Since the beginning of this pandemic, my priority has been to protect and promote the wellbeing and safety of our school community. At times this has been very challenging, especially when guidance has been thin on the ground or somewhat contradictory.

Given the emergence of the omicron variant, the decision has been made, in the best interests of all, that students will finish working on site in school on **FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER at 2.25pm**. They will be encouraged to **work independently** from home Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021. Teachers will brief students about the work to be completed and offer guidance as to how to make best use of this time. Teachers may also choose to set work on Google Classroom.

ALL members of our school community, when they are within the school building, are strongly advised to continue to follow the guidance as set out below –

Wash hands frequently	HANDS
Wear a mask	FACE
Keep your distance from others	SPACE

I am requesting that you remind your daughter about the importance of continuing to wear a mask, especially when attending year group events, to better protect themselves, their family and their friends. Hand sanitiser, disinfecting wipes, soap and masks are still being made available to all within school.

The annual Christmas Carol Service will now take place on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021, in an amended format to minimise risk of infection. Santa's surprises will be delivered to students on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

To further ensure the health and safety of your child, please ensure that if she is to leave the school site at any stage during the school day, **Years 8-12 students must be collected by a parent or guardian**. Please let the office staff know that you have arrived to collect your child and she will be collected from class. To protect learning time, it is strongly requested that all appointments are made outside of school hours whenever it is possible to do so.

I take this opportunity to remind you that students should not be calling/texting parents or guardians using their own mobile phone without permission from a member of staff. Unsupervised use of a mobile phone within a school setting can ensue cause for safeguarding concerns.

**Please note: School will reopen on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 with Registration at 8.45 am.**

Finally, I would like to wish all who belong to our school and local community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. We also remember all those who, for whatever reason, find this a sad and difficult time of year. We keep them in our thoughts and prayers. I hope and pray that you all have a lovely holiday, stay safe and take time to rest and relax with family and friends. Thank you for your ongoing support - together we can secure 'Achievement for all'.

Yours faithfully

Ms Paula Stuart  
Principal

