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Dear Parent/Carer

### Senior Christmas Dance – Thursday 17 December

NBHS is proud of its tradition of holding enjoyable and highly successful Senior Christmas Dances. The enthusiasm of both pupils and staff at this event has made it one of the highlights of the year and the behaviour of our pupils at these dances has been exemplary.

However, over the last few years, pupils have organised parties after the dance which I am sure have been very enjoyable but which have caused issues for us in school. Firstly, some senior pupils have brought alcohol into the school dance with the intention of drinking it later. We are making it clear to our S5 and S6 pupils that any alcohol found in school will be confiscated; bags will be checked and left in a supervised location at all times. If we have reason to believe that a pupil has been drinking alcohol prior to or during the dance, parents may be contacted and asked to collect their son or daughter.

The second issue is that the after dance parties have continued into the early hours of the next morning. This has resulted in a number of pupils coming to school the next day either unable or unwilling to follow their timetable. I would not wish to spoil the enjoyment of this special evening but I cannot condone pupils attending on the morning of Friday 18 December if they are not in a fit state for school. If a pupil comes to school but is not able to attend classes then I will contact a parent to come and collect them. Any pupil absent without good reason will be recorded as having an unauthorised absence. This is the last day in school before the Christmas holiday and we are asking pupils to come to school in a Christmas jumper to raise funds for charity. We hope this will be a happy end to the term and we want our S5 pupils to enjoy it, too.

Please also note that S5 pupils should be in school all day on Thursday 17 December, unless they have a bona fide medical appointment.

This letter in no way implies that your child would bring alcohol into school or would not be fit to attend school the morning after the dance, but I hope you understand why I am writing to all parents of S5 and S6 pupils.

Yours sincerely

Lauren Rodger  
Head Teacher