



Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid Update

This week we have seen a significant rise in positive Covid cases. More than 10% of our students have contracted the virus, with cases across all year groups.

The Public Health team tell us spikes of this nature are common and usually pass within a week or two. They advise that we continue to wear face coverings for all areas of the school at present and review this again at the end of next week. They also recommend all students take a Lateral Flow Test every day for the next seven days. By Friday all students will be provided with a new seven test pack. The next school delivery of LFT packs will not be until the week beginning 31st January, however the Public Health Team remind us that LFT packs are available from outlets such as pharmacies.

The latest guidance on isolation is always available on the NHS website however I would highlight the information shown in the box below.

Students who have tested and reported a positive LFD result are no longer advised to get a confirmatory PCR test unless they:

- have symptoms (in which case they need to follow the stay at home guidance, self-isolate and order a PCR test)
- have been advised to take a PCR test because they are in a clinically vulnerable group
- have been advised to do so as part of a research or surveillance programme

If you test positive, your self-isolation period includes the day your symptoms started (or the day you had the test, if you did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days. People who are self-isolating with COVID-19 have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with an LFD test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to school immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be reported to the NHS. If the result of either test is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

We currently have four staff isolating due to positive results which does place some strain upon us as a relatively small school. We will continue to consult with the Public Health Team as the situation develops and we will keep our current safety measures under review.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Mr N.K. Willingham
Headteacher