

NW/VS/October2021

Dear parents and carers

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well. You will have seen in both the local and national news that Covid-19 cases amongst secondary school age children are rising. Whilst we have been informed that we do not have numbers as high number of cases, there has been a rise in cases in the community, and we are working with Public Health England (PHE) and Derby City Council (DCC) to reduce any of these risks.

Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell.

Parents will need to arrange a PCR test for pupils with any of the following symptoms:

- Cold like symptoms
- Flu like symptoms
- Headaches
- Temperature
- Persistent cough
- Sore throat
- Sickness
- Diarrhoea
- Loss of taste or smell

PCR tests can be requested from school or for your child from here:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

Due to rising Covid-19 cases, we now need to introduce some further preventative measures in order to ensure the transmission of the disease is further limited. PHE and DCC have advised the following, which we will be adhering to from Monday, 11th October 2021:

- Pupils and staff should now be wearing face masks in all communal or transitional areas (i.e. during assemblies or in corridors moving between lessons).
- Staff and pupils can make a personal choice about wearing masks in classrooms (although at a later date it may be that we will need to reintroduce masks in classrooms).
- Windows and doors will continue to be open for ventilation.
- Regular hand washing should continue. At this time of year, common respiratory illnesses (coughs, colds and flu) are circulating and hand washing is a key way to stop these spreading.
- There are no plans to reintroduce year group bubbles and all specialist equipment will continue to be accessible by all pupils.

To keep our school community as safe as possible, twice weekly lateral flow testing (LFT) is really important for those that do not have any Covid-19 symptoms.

As a simple summary, please see the advice below: If you have no Covid-19 symptoms:

- get twice-weekly lateral flow tests
- report lateral flow test results to school
- get a PCR test and send your result to school
- stay at home until your result: - if it is negative, return to school - if it positive, self-isolate for the guided number of days.

Thank you once again for your continued support as we strive to ensure your child's education is not disrupted and they remain safe. As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch and myself or a member of staff will get back to you as soon as possible. Have a restful, relaxing, and safe weekend.

Yours sincerely



Neil Wilkinson
Executive Headteacher