

11 October 2021

Dear parents/carers,

Covid Update

We continue to keep a very close eye on the regional and local data regarding confirmed cases of Covid-19, and regularly review the risks for our students and staff and the measures we have in place to mitigate against these risks.

We are lucky to have had a much smaller number of confirmed cases within our student body than in other secondary schools, but this number has risen recently; with positive PCR test results being reported in all Year groups. The highest proportion of cases are currently in Years 10 and 11.

An enhanced cleaning regime and additional ventilation in classrooms and teaching spaces have remained in place throughout Covid, and I have issued regular reminders in school for us to maintain a sensible and sensitive approach towards this virus. Students and staff continue to be encouraged to test twice-weekly in the absence of any Covid symptoms, and not attend school if any symptoms are apparent. We have provided lateral flow test kits, to enable regular testing at home, for all students who have consented to testing. If you would like to obtain test kits for use at home, over and above those provided by school, you will be able to do so free of charge via this link:

https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/order-lateral-flow-kits/condition
Students are encouraged to spend the majority of the time during their breaks and lunches outside unless it is raining. In addition, I recently instructed staff to maintain a distance of 1m+ from students where possible, and when a student required closer support, good practice was observed.

If cases of Covid within the student body continue to rise, face coverings will once again be recommended to be worn whilst moving through school or in areas of higher congestion. Additional measures, which are also being considered, are to reintroduce a stricter distance between students in different year groups at social times, and an insistence that students are outside during breaks and lunches unless it is raining. The reintroduction of face coverings being worn in class will be delayed and only actioned if the situation merited this.

A large number of students in Years 7-11 were vaccinated against Covid-19 in school last Friday.

Please continue to encourage your child to adopt a sensible approach towards Covid. It continues to remain within our community and is likely to be something we will have to be aware of for some time to come. By maintaining a sensible and sensitive approach to this virus, we can continue to reduce its impact on us and on others.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes,

Mr Kelly

Headteacher