

24<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Today we have been notified of an increase in the daily number of positive cases of COVID-19 amongst our students. 39 cases have been reported this morning. Over 75% of these cases are in both year 7 and year 10. Consequently, we are in touch with DfE about our next steps. There is no need to be alarmed, but as we await further advice, please can I ask your support with some key actions:

**Face coverings** – while these are no longer mandatory in classrooms, we recommend that your child wears one when indoors. This will help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 and ensure more staff and students are not absent. We strongly recommend these are worn in lessons, as well as communal areas.

**Asymptomatic testing** – Please continue to carry out LFD testing twice a week, recording your child's results on the NHS website, and the school form. This will help detect symptomatic cases and reduce transmission in school.

**Symptomatic testing** – It is vital that if your child has any symptoms of COVID-19, that you book them a PCR test. We recommend this even if the symptoms are mild. This should happen even if they have a negative LFD test. Again, this will help us identify and isolate students and prevent increased absence of students and staff. Whilst also reducing risk to vulnerable members of our community.

**Isolation** – It is important that those who test positive isolate properly for the correct period. Students should not come back to school early if they are testing positive on LFD results. Further guidance on this can be found at [Coronavirus: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-how-to-stay-safe-and-help-prevent-the-spread)

In school we will continue to ensure there is ventilation in classrooms and indoor spaces. We will also remind students of good hygiene, including hand washing and covering the nose and mouth when coughing/sneezing. Your support on all these key messages is appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



Will Speke  
Head of School

