

9<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week we informed all parents and carers of the additional measures introduced by the government to reduce the transmission of Covid 19 in the Academy.

The wearing of face coverings by students, for those without exemptions, is being strongly encouraged by all staff members in the Academy. Students are wearing face coverings in communal areas however there are still a large number of students arriving at the Academy without a face covering. These students have been able to collect one each morning but as stated in an earlier letter the cost of distributing large numbers of face coverings everyday cannot continue. Recent government guidance is increasing the expectation of face coverings in more public areas therefore students will be expected to have their own. From Monday there will be home contact for students who arrive at the Academy without their own face covering or those destroyed through the process of the Academy day.

We can now confirm the Academy will once again utilise the sports hall as an asymptomatic testing site prior to students returning in January 2022.

The testing will occur on **Tuesday 4th January**. To ensure minimal disruption to the provision offered for students when in the Academy, all students who volunteer will test on Tuesday 4th January however no students will receive teaching in the Academy during the day. There will be remote learning accessible for all year groups.

**All students will then return to the Academy on Wednesday 5th January from 8.15am.** Please ensure that your child brings a mask with them.

Below are some key details regarding the testing procedures and expectations:

Allocated times are below:

- 9.00 - 10.15: year 7
  - 10.15 - 11.30: year 8
  - 11.30 - 12.45: year 9
  - 12.45 - 14.00: year 10
  - 14.00 - 15.15: year 11
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- Students who attend the Academy for testing **are not required to wear uniform**, however they should be wearing their own mask when they attend the Academy site.

- Students who volunteer for testing must attend the Academy via the path adjacent to the bus park gate at the allotted time above. There will be a staff member present in the bus park to support student movement and parking.
- Older siblings can attend with their younger siblings earlier in the day to allow them to supervise them at home.
- All students who take a test will be supervised by a trained adult.
- Any students who test positive will be contacted separately by a member of the testing team.
- **Once students have completed their test they must leave the site immediately.**

Although parents and carers have previously completed consent forms for testing we once again require your consent. We are unable to use the consent forms completed previously. Please use the below link to provide consent for your child:

<https://forms.gle/629Zpg7SWU4EfzGL9>

All consent must be provided prior to **Wednesday 15th December at 5pm**. This provides sufficient time to prepare the registration of mass testing.

We would like to remind all parents and carers that LFD tests are available in the Academy and that students should continue to regularly test at home.

Should your child receive a positive LFD following December 24th then please book a PCR test and notify the Academy of the result.

We have previously had large numbers of students volunteering for testing at the Academy. We hope that once again the majority of families choose to engage in testing. The confidence provided for students, staff, parents and carers allows us all to feel safer within the Academy community.

Yours faithfully



Mr W Pratt  
Principal