

Monday 3rd January 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a positive year although it appears that the next few weeks may prove to be challenging. However, I am sure that together we can overcome any obstacles at the start of this year.

As you know, in order to meet the government guidance, we are planning to test all students on **Tuesday 4th January** who have parental permission. However, to facilitate this we will have a staggered start to the term.

- Sixth Former students can arrive from 8.45am and go straight to the gym for their tests
- Year 7-9 should arrive as normal and testing will take place in the morning
- Year 10 and 11 students should arrive for 11.30am, but no earlier than 11.15am and go straight to the hall.

After Tuesday, students should continue to test twice weekly at home.

In addition, the government are now recommending that face coverings are worn in secondary school classrooms. The advice is short term only to support pupils and teachers as they return to school this term and builds on the existing guidance.

The advice on face coverings in classrooms will be in place until Wednesday 26th January, when Plan B regulations are currently scheduled to expire, at which point it will be reviewed.

It is imperative that your son/daughter brings a face covering to school and wears whilst inside the building. The bullet points below summarise the guidance on testing and face coverings:

Lateral Flow Testing

- This is twice weekly for staff and students after the whole school testing on Tuesday
- I am suggesting that all staff and students test on a Sunday night (Monday AM) and Wednesday night (Thursday AM)

Face Coverings

- In classrooms for Year 7 and above
- Not required when outside
- Staff and students should bring a spare face covering to school
- Staff and students should bring hand sanitiser for the safe removal of face covering and when putting the face covering on

Yours sincerely



Mr M Rayner
Headteacher