

29th October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

**RE: Updates following the October half term**

I wanted to update you about some changes in the Academy for the upcoming half term.

**COVID Measures**

Thank you for your support this Academic year, with the ever changing picture in relation to COVID and how schools are needing to respond to such changes. Over the half term break, the advice locally from the health protection team is suggesting increases in some control measures to stop the further spread of the infection, as numbers of cases locally are increasing and are above the national average.

The Academy is therefore encouraging:

- All **students to test weekly, using Lateral Flow Devices**.
- Anyone who **tests positive** should follow national guidance and **then take a PCR test**.
- Anyone who tests **positive on a PCR test**, we would request **to complete the Google Form** in the link and report the result and any students in school who may have been close contacts.
- We will then inform those students who have been **identified as a close contact**, and again, following national guidance, encourage them to **take a PCR test**.
- Those who have been **identified as a close contact**, public health is also requesting that **daily LFT tests are taken following the PCR test**, as a precaution.
- In addition, the local health protection team are encouraging all staff and students to wear masks in communal areas. Students may also wish to wear masks in the classroom also.

**Catering**

We are pleased to announce that the Academy will be moving to a new catering provider. We appreciate parents' and students' patience with some of the issues we have had this year, relating to our catering provision, and we are confident that from the second week onwards students and parents will see an improved service. However, due to the changeover of companies at half term, and due to circumstances beyond our control we will be operating a reduced menu for the first week back. There is an overview of the menu for the week on our website. During this time our new catering provider will be working with students to create a new menu, moving forwards and we look forward to Year 11 parents being able to sample our new catering company's food at our Year 11 'Be Wise: Revise' event, this coming Tuesday. If any Year 11 parents have not yet completed the link to confirm their attendance, please do so here: [Be Wise: Revise](#).

As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully



Graham Skidmore  
Head of School