



24th September 2021

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Dear Parents/Guardians

COVID-19 Cases Further Update and Actions 24.9.21

Further to our communication this morning, regarding our number of positive Covid cases, we write to update you on our current situation and actions that we will be taking to further reduce the risk of infection across the school and our community.

Following a meeting today with Solihull Council and Public Health England, they advised that although the measures we have in place are effective, the introduction of enhanced measures is recommended to minimise transmission. These measures include:

- A temporary **re-introduction of face coverings** at school in communal areas **from Monday 27 September until further notice**. Please let your child know about this and make sure that they bring a face covering to school and a sealable plastic bag to store the face covering in when they are outside. This includes our Sixth Form study common room and study areas. We are not asking students or staff to wear face coverings whilst in lessons, although we again wish to stress that students are allowed to do so if it helps them feel more secure and confident *This will be reviewed at 2 weekly intervals*. This applies to all students unless you have advised us that your child is exempt from wearing a face covering.
- **Some students groups will be asked to take a COVID-19 Lateral Flow Test (LFT) daily** at home; if your child person is in one of these groups, you will be contacted, by schoolcomms email, about this early next week.
- As many as one in three cases of COVID-19 are in people who have no symptoms. **We strongly encourage all family members to take a COVID-19 LFT test twice per week**. Free testing kits can be obtained via the Community Collect initiative <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/> or collect a supply of them to take at home from one of our Hubs or the Mobile Testing Unit. Further information on testing can be found here - <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/COVID-19/covid-testing>
- To help ensure that we reduce in school transmission as much as possible we also ask that **every child completes an LFT test on Sunday** to ensure that we reduce any children who have the virus from coming to school on Monday



Solihull Council and Public Health England have advised of the importance during this time of being extra vigilant. If your child or anyone else in your household has symptoms, or you are in any doubt about this, please book a free PCR test at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test and they should isolate whilst waiting for the result.

Please note that children should still attend school whilst awaiting the results of a PCR test if they were tested as a result of being a close contact and have no symptoms themselves.

All those infected are currently isolating to ensure our school remains as safe as possible during this challenging time. We are closely monitoring the situation in-school on a daily basis, and taking a measured approach to ensure that, where possible, all students will continue to attend school to reduce any impact on their education.

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping to keep our school safe.

Yours sincerely

Mr Warwood
Associate Headteacher