



29 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

***Re: Face Masks and On-site Covid-19 Testing in January***

You will be aware that over the weekend the Prime Minister confirmed new, temporary measures to respond to the emergence of UK cases of the Omicron variant. These measures include:

- **Face coverings** to be made compulsory in shops and public transport
- **All contacts of suspected Omicron cases must self-isolate**, regardless of their vaccination status. They will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace.
  - *Please note self-isolation of close contacts is still not required for the Delta variant, so unless you are told by NHS Test and Trace it is the Omicron strand, close contacts **DO NOT** need to self-isolate.*
- **Face coverings in school** – Starting tomorrow, all students, staff and visitors need to wear face coverings in communal areas such as assemblies, corridors, queuing for break and lunch refreshments and public (and dedicated school) transport to and from school. This does not apply if you have a medical exemption.

These measures are precautionary, and will be reviewed by the government in three weeks. If these measures are effective we hope that we can continue as normal in school as Christmas approaches.

**In school testing in January**

In addition, we were informed at the end of last week that the school will be carrying out COVID-19 testing in the first week back in January. Once we have put plans in place I will update you with the arrangements.

Please remember to carry on taking rapid lateral flow tests on a regular basis throughout the week.

Thank you for your continued support of the school.

Your sincerely

Ian Smyrk  
**Headteacher**

***Be The Best You Can Be***