



29th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your families are well.

As you may know, the Prime Minister made a speech on Saturday 27th November regarding the new 'Omicron' strain of Covid and the changes to the current mitigations in place in society and schools. Schools have been asked to increase their measures to help prevent the spread of this new variant.

The guidance from the Department for Education to schools can be found [here](#).

As from Tuesday 30th November all students and staff will be asked to wear masks in communal areas: stairs, corridors, exam hall, eating areas etc., but not classrooms. Students should ensure they have at least one clean face mask every day (preferably two). The government will review the new measures in 3 weeks, therefore face masks will be in place until at least the end of term.

If your child is exempt from wearing a mask they should carry their 'exempt card' or wear the badge they were given last academic year. If they cannot find their card or badge they should see Mrs Malone in The Hub to be given a replacement.

It is clear that we cannot create a totally risk-free environment. However, the steps that we continue to have in place will help us minimise any risks from Covid whilst providing a full educational experience for all students. The current safety measures in place include: more regular cleaning; windows open for good ventilation (students are now allowed to wear a coat in class if they are cold- but they must also be wearing full school uniform including blazer); daily top up of hand sanitisers and soap; cleaning packs for computers; and split break and lunchtimes so there are fewer students lining up for food and eating together.

To help keep school and your families safe please follow these simple Covid reminders:

- Ensure lateral flow tests are completed twice a week
- Ensure any positive cases are followed up with a PCR test
- Inform the school of any positive cases via study bugs (see our website to download the app)
- Book a PCR test if your child is ill with COVID symptoms (lateral flow tests are to identify people who have no symptoms)

I hope that this letter has provided you with sufficient information about the increased safety measures and that this will help continue to keep our number of Covid cases low.

Yours sincerely,

Russell Plester
Headteacher