



Our Ref: DJA|RCL|013

8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back to the new academic year 2021 -2022! We sincerely hope that this year will see a return to as normal as possible. However, the structure of the first week reflects the national directive that all secondary schools must test students twice which has necessitated the staggered start. We apologise for any inconvenience that this has caused but this is unavoidable.

We have been asked to send out the letter from the Executive Director of Adult Social Care & Public Health and the Director of Children's Services (attached [here](#)). It details that schools write a revised Risk Assessment in line with national guidelines. This has also been published on the School website for you. We will review and amend this according to the ever changing circumstances over the course of the year.

There is still a need for us all to be vigilant; the expectation is that all students and staff will test twice a week using the lateral flow test kits from School. Should there be a positive result, this should be communicated to us as soon as possible and a PCR test undertaken. Public Health England have advised that household members should also isolate themselves unless they are fully vaccinated, under 18, not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons or taking part in an approved Covid 19 vaccine trial.

We continue to maintain our Blended Learning approach to support the ongoing education of our students even if they are unable to attend classes in person. Please refer to our [Blended Learning Guide](#), which is published on the school website. For those students who have to self isolate, please refer to contingency for scenario 3 in the guide. There will be online resources provided on Google Classroom - as previously, although there will not be live lessons at this stage.

Please bear with us as we negotiate our way through this; one thing which marked our successful response as a community last year was the incredible support and resilience which everyone showed. It made me realise that we can get through this and come out the other side, smiling and working together.

Our two INSET days last week demonstrated the commitment from the staff to make this year an extraordinary one where we get back to making "every minute a learning minute". I am looking forward to greeting the students back to Rednock; it almost feels like a brand new school full of excitement at the opportunities ahead and the desire to make everyone realise that they matter.

Here's to a wonderful year of enjoying learning, taking every opportunity and making ourselves a success.

Yours faithfully

**Mr David Alexander**

**Head Teacher**

Head Teacher - David Alexander BA (Hons); MSc