



10th January 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Covid Update

I am very happy to report that during the lateral flow testing at the start of term all results were negative. This is again testament to our amazing families doing a wonderful job of home testing and isolating where required. Thank you to our whole community for this, to all the students who dealt with the whole process with such maturity and good humour and to our amazing team of staff testers who devote so much time and energy to testing the students so efficiently.

Please continue to test twice a week at home and ask the students to see Mrs Taylor Lane if your supplies of LFTs are running low.

Confirmatory PCR tests to be temporarily suspended for positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results

Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

Covid Vaccination in School

We have been informed that there will be an in school vaccination session offering both first and second doses - as appropriate. However, we do not as yet have a date for this to happen and currently the immunisation team are not able to indicate when they will be able to give us the date. Parents can opt to book at a vaccination centre for their child to have their covid immunisation. We would encourage you to book them through a local vaccination centre but we will alert you to any in school vaccination date as soon as we receive further information. Please note that the in school session will be for students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11. Students in year 7 who are 12 will not be offered a vaccination in school - this is a decision made by the NHS / School Immunisations Teams and is not something that the school can change. Parents can book vaccinations for their child, if aged 12 or over, through the [NHS booking system](#).

In the (hopefully unlikely) event of school closure or year group closure

If you are a key worker *and* your child needs to be in school, please complete [this form](#). We will contact you for evidence of key worker status (this can be a photo of a letter confirming your employment, or a photo of your lanyard). Children with at least one parent or carer who is a key worker can attend school if required, but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can. For details regarding key worker status please see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Are you a qualified teacher?

The DfE has released an urgent call for support to encourage qualified teachers to return to teach on a temporary basis.

“COVID-19 continues to impact schools and colleges in England and we are seeking your help to invite qualified ex-teachers to consider returning to teaching on a temporary basis. We want to make sure that as many supply staff as possible are available, by encouraging ex-teachers from primary, secondary and further education to consider returning to support colleagues and the nation’s children and young people through this difficult time.”

The DfE is encouraging ex-teachers to register with a supply agency. I personally would prefer them to contact schools directly as most agencies take a hefty commission which costs the school and reduces the money paid to the teacher. If you are a qualified teacher and are interested in supporting local schools please complete the short [Expression of Interest Form](#) identifying which schools you might be available to work in (not necessarily Langtree) and I will pass your details directly to the school.

Warmest wishes

Simon Bamford