



RE: Weekly update 12/2/21

12th February 2021

Dear parent carers

I hope that you are well.

It has been fantastic to hear that some of our post-16 students have taken up the offer of the Covid-19 vaccine over the last couple of weeks, as have some parent carers who have been recognised as 'carers' for those Clinically Extremely Vulnerable. We hope that this is recognised more widely for more of our community. I know that so many families, particularly those who are supporting remote learning, are looking forward to some normality, structure and social inclusion.

It was heart-warming to be part of a Futures class wellbeing check-in with their fellow students at home. Students shared their experiences of receiving the vaccine other using verbal language, gestures, and Makaton signing to encourage each other to 'go for it' and 'be brave'. I have received lots of positive feedback about peer support making all the difference to the wellbeing of our children and young people across the school. If you would like to explore this experience with your child/young person at home, please let your class teacher know so that they can arrange this.

The situation this week - Class bubble closures

- Thankfully there have been zero positive Covid cases impacting on class bubbles this week.
- 1 class bubble closed and re-opened following a negative test result.
- The 3 class bubbles returned on Monday, following negative test results.
- There have been no asymptomatic cases identified from the lateral flow tests of staff or pupils.
- We are happy to report that we close the week with zero bubble closures.

Curriculum update

In the autumn term we introduced a brand new role of Curriculum Leads, to work alongside our Department Leads and Co-ordinators, developing and driving forward our exciting, fun and challenging curricula. We have taken parent carer feedback to ensure all children and young people are never limited by the department they are in or the curriculum that they follow.

Departments are working on building theme-days into the curriculum and developing exciting events for the rest of the year. We will be gathering parent carer input to inform theme days and celebration events. Keep your eyes peeled for the following upcoming events: National Careers week, World Book day, Science week and Red Nose Day.

Pick up and drop off to school

Please be aware that we now have many more parent carers who transport their child/ young person to school. This is in addition to our usual 90+ schools transport vehicles that enter and exit our Monkmoor site. At these busy transition points we respectfully ask parent carers to be mindful of our neighbours, other pupils and parent carers, and that your vehicles are secured should you need to leave them.

February half term holiday support and information

Please find attached the latest edition of our holiday support information booklet, we hope that this sign posting booklet enables those who need it to get the support, at the earliest stage. Using our

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Specialist Academy



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safeguarding data, we can see that there are currently families who are experiencing challenging domestic lives, and we have targeted our booklet to help in particular areas of need.

Half term track and trace

In line with government expectations, we will continue to support Covid-19 track and trace activities throughout half term. Unlike the previous Christmas holiday, this half term we will all remain under national lockdown. With this in mind, instead of making calls to unfortunate families affected by a positive case, we will make contact and notify you by text or email by 1pm.

Please use the following email address to let us know, only if your child/ young person tests positive for Covid-19. When not attending school, there is no requirement to close bubbles due to symptoms alone. However, in this scenario, you should follow the updated national guidance, as attached, and seek out a test as soon as possible.

If your child/ young person tests positive for Covid-19, please email:

Trackandtrace@severndaleacademy.co.uk

This email address will be monitored daily between 10am -12pm.
Other email addresses may not be monitored regularly in the holidays.

If you have any queries, feedback or suggestions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

I hope that you have a safe and enjoyable half term!

Best wishes,

Sabrina Hobbs, Principal