



Monday 12 July 2021

Dear parent/carers,

I am writing to update you on the current challenges facing the school in relation to COVID-19. As you may be aware the DELTA variant of the disease has been on the rise in the locality. This is leading to significant numbers of students having to self-isolate for a period of 10 days as well as impacting on school staffing levels.

As of today, we are operating on a reduced staffing level and unable to acquire further supply staff due to unprecedented demand. The health and safety of all members of the school community is our main priority and so it is with regret that the school must once again revert to our contingency plans around home-schooling. The decision the school is taking is supported by our Trust, the local authority and Public Health England. From Tuesday 13th July we are asking students in year 7, who are not already self-isolating, to stay at home up to and including Wednesday 21st July. It is with regret that this means that students in year 7 will now not return to school until September along with the students who were sent home isolating.

In addition to this we will continue to monitor cases and the number of students isolating in each year group. We have been made aware that some secondary schools in the local area have announced today that they are switching to 100% remote learning for the remainder of the academic year. We are striving to avoid this and are committed to continue to try and educate students on site. However, there is a distinct possibility that other year groups will be required to study from home at short notice over the next few days. I will endeavour to communicate this information as promptly as is possible. Can I please ask you to keep an eye on the school website and regularly check text and emails for further information.

In addition to the above plans, and having reviewed our academy risk assessment, from Tuesday 13th July, we will be reintroducing the wearing of face masks/coverings in all areas of the school, including classrooms for the remainder of the academic year as an additional control measure.

Once again, I apologise for the disruption that this may cause, but please be assured that it is not taken lightly. It is important that we continue to put the safety and well-being of all members of our school community first.

As always, I thank you for your continued support and understanding in these difficult times.

Yours faithfully,

J Arnold  
Principal.

Principal Mr. J Arnold B.ED, NPQH

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