



12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Students

I write in regards to changes to our infection control measures as of Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Positive case rates have dropped significantly over the past fortnight at school. My thanks to you, the children, and the staff for your vigilance in adhering to the hygiene and safety measures which have contributed to this.

Until the end of the Autumn term, Wokingham schools have today been advised to implement a range of measures including:

- The use of face coverings in communal areas (unless exempt) for staff, children and visitors in **secondary schools**
- Face coverings should continue to be used on public transport and dedicated transport to school or colleges.
- Encourage the use of face coverings for parents visiting the school site, particularly when indoors but also including pick up and drop off.
- Continuing to encourage staff at all schools and **secondary**-aged pupils to engage in the LFD testing programme at least twice-weekly.
- In **secondary schools**, any child who has a household member test positive or has been identified as a close contact of a positive case via NHS Test and Trace or via other means should be advised to take a daily lateral flow test for 7 days, in addition to taking a one-off PCR test on day 3. Whilst engaging in daily LFD testing, anyone who tests negative can continue to attend school.
- In **primary schools** any child who has a household member test positive or has been identified as a close contact of a positive case via NHS Test and Trace or via other means should be advised to take a PCR on day 3 and remain isolating until the result is known. Alternatively, at the parents' discretion, the child can take daily lateral flow tests for 7 days in addition to taking a one-off PCR test on day 3. If the LFD tests remain negative the child can attend school
- Anyone who has **tested positive via PCR in the last 90 days** should not carry out either LFD or PCR testing.



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Therefore, until the end of term, face coverings should be worn in communal areas (unless exempt) but not in lessons, although children and staff can continue to wear a face covering in lessons if they so wish.

Assemblies will continue to be mostly be online as will our Christmas Carol Service.

Outdoor sporting fixtures can now resume.

Year 11 have their PPEs (mock exams) approaching and so they will move to little break/lunch and Year 9 will move back to big break/lunch.

If case rates increase, these measures will be reviewed.

Ventilation also remains key to stopping the spread of the virus and so your child should wear suitably warm clothing as the weather turns colder as windows and doors will be open. The school has also received its limited allocation of CO<sub>2</sub> monitors which will be placed in strategic locations around the site.

Thank you once again for all your efforts to stop the spread of the virus, especially ensuring regular LFD testing and promoting good hygiene.

Yours faithfully

D J Gray

Headteacher



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