

Friday 12 February 2021



Update

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this letter find you all safe, well and coping with the ongoing challenges the pandemic presents.

My child tests positive

If your child tests positive over the half-term it is important that you tell us, so that we can do the necessary contact tracing and if needed inform those that may have been a close contact. If your child tests positive, please click on this link to [REPORT A POSITIVE PUPIL CASE](#) and complete the online form, this will give us the information we need. If further information is needed someone from school will get in touch.

Free-School Meals

I can confirm that benefit related free school meals vouchers have been issued for over the half-term. If you need any further information, please contact the business support team bst@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk

Staff Vaccinations

Lancashire Local Authority along with several others locally and nationally have recognised the importance of vaccinating staff in special schools and including them in the current wave of vaccinations I am pleased to say that vast majority of the Astley Park class teams have received their first dose of the Covid19 vaccine. This is such a positive step forward, as this will hopefully prevent the staff team from experiencing significant ill-health should they contract the virus and dramatically reduce the rate of transmission throughout school.

Pupil testing

We are continuing with our testing of secondary aged pupils. We offer pupils the opportunity to be tested on their return to school and weekly thereafter. If you have not previously consented to either return testing or weekly testing and would like your child to take part please complete this [Testing Consent Form](#).

I am pleased to report that all pupils test results to date have been negative.

Staff testing

We have been testing staff weekly since Monday 04 January, and in line with DFE guidance have now introduced twice weekly testing. I am pleased to report that all results to date have been negative.

Thank You

I would just like to take this opportunity to say Thank you to all the parents and carers that have taken the time to email me and other members of staff expressing their gratitude and appreciation. It has been a very challenging half-term and receiving your kind and thoughtful emails have really lifted our spirits and given us all a much-needed boost. Thank you!



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We have been incredibly fortunate at Astley Park, we have had extremely low numbers of confirmed cases, in both staff and pupils, and fared far better than many other schools locally and nationally, whilst a large part of this is good fortune, we have also worked extremely hard to ensure the school is as safe as possible.

We have all made many sacrifices to ensure everyone's safety, please bear this in mind during the half-term break and continue to do all that you can to protect your children and your families, so that when we return to school it continues to be safe and we can remain open.

Kindest regards,

Take Care & Keep Safe 



Mr Kieran Welsh
Headteacher

