

Friday 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID-19 Update

Face Coverings

Following conversation with the local Public Health team last week we will be asking **all students to continue use face coverings in corridors and communal areas at the start of next half term**. At this point we are not directing students to wear them in classrooms, however they may do so if they wish. We do request that all students bring their own to have a reusable face covering and a bag they can store in in hygienically if they choose to remove it during the day.

We will review this measure with the Public Health team at the end of the first two weeks of next half term, when we have a greater understanding of transmission rates as students return to school.

Home Testing

They have asked us to also remind all parents about the importance of **carrying out twice weekly lateral flow tests at home**. We have sent home additional test kits this week. This is effective in ensuring that young people who are asymptomatic can find this out and, therefore, stay at home. We have seen how this has allowed cases of COVID-19 to caught quickly, reduced spreading to others and it is important that as cases rise in our community we continue to do this.

The Public Health team has also advised us that **if someone in the household has tested positive** any child who attends school should be encouraged to carry out **daily** LFT testing for 10 days after the onset of symptoms (or positive test if asymptomatic), and only attend school if their LFT test is negative.

They are also encouraged to follow national guidance for all contacts and access a PCR test (COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)).

Vaccinations

Earlier today we shared information in respect of the **COVID-19 vaccination programme for children aged 12 to 15 years of age**. A further copy of this letter is attached with this email. The vaccination will be offered to students in school next half term. If your child wishes to have their vaccine in school, please complete and return the [E-consent form](#) **by 5pm on Monday 1st November 2021**.

However, the Government has just announced that **from the end of this week, parents of 12-15 year olds can book a COVID-19 vaccination for their child directly through the COVID-19 vaccination national booking service**. This allows you to book your child's COVID-19 vaccination at one of mass vaccination centres such at the Etihad Campus site in Manchester. This offer is **in addition** to the in-school COVID-19 vaccination programme which is being delivered by the NHS School Health Service immunisation teams, who will be visiting the school next half term. This is designed to give you more options for accessing the vaccination if you want your child to be vaccinated.

If you wish to use the **national booking service**, you can do so from the end of today (22 October).

To book online:

- Visit www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination

To book on the phone:

- If you cannot book your appointment online, phone **119** free of charge, 7am to 11pm, 7 days a week. You can ask someone else to do this for you. Please let us know if you need an interpreter.
- You can use text phone **18001 119** or the NHS British Sign Language interpreter service at www.interpretnow.co.uk/nhs119

Symptoms

Finally, **if your child is showing any symptoms of COVID-19**, please make sure they are booked in for a PCR test and **remain at home** until a negative result has been given. If the result is positive, it is also important that you communicate this result with school as soon as possible.

Kind regards,
Chorlton High School

