

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

This letter is to provide an update on the measures in place in respect of Covid-19.

### Face coverings in school

Following conversations with Manchester Public Health we have **all students to return to using of face coverings in corridors and communal areas**. Face coverings lower the risk of spreading the virus if someone has the virus but does not have symptoms. At this point we are not directing students to wear them in classrooms, however they may do so if they wish.

This week we have supplied students with disposable masks if they have needed one, however next week **we hope that all students will have a reusable face covering** and a bag they can store in in hygienically if they choose to remove it during the day.

This measure will be in place until the half term break, when we will review the situation again.

### Routine LFD asymptomatic testing

We strongly encourage parents to support their children to test at home twice a week and to register their results, even when negative. This important testing helps to pick up the infection early, preventing further spread, keeping families, friends and schools protected from Covid. We encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>.

We are awaiting a further delivery from the Department of Education, and when this arrives, we will distribute the test to students. In the meantime, if families wish to order additional LFD tests for your household, please visit [www.nhs.uk/get-tested](http://www.nhs.uk/get-tested)

### Further information on COVID-19 vaccinations for 12-15 year olds

In September, the four UK Chief Medical Officers announced that all healthy 12-15 year olds will be offered a first dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine as part of the national vaccination programme.

Vaccinations will be delivered at the school by Manchester Local Care Organisation (MLCO) via their NHS School Health Immunisation Service. This is the service that delivers a range of other vaccinations in the school. They will be supported by the wider School Health Services and other NHS staff.

At present the team are planning to visit the school in the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> November. They will handle all the arrangements for the vaccinations as this process is run independently from the school by NHS team. This means that you will receive a consent form for your child to receive the vaccination directly from them. It is important that this form is completed promptly and returned to ensure your child can be vaccinated at the session. It needs to be returned at least 48 hours before the session.

When you are contacted by the NHS School Health Immunisation Service, they will provide parents with additional information. However, the NHS is encouraging parents and guardians to have a discussion with children as soon as possible about the vaccination so an informed decision can be made. There are a range of national leaflets available that explain more about the vaccine, the benefits and side effects. We have attached her a joint a letter to parents of secondary school and college students in England on Covid-19 testing and vaccines from the Secretaries of State for Education and for Health and Social Care. There is also a useful guide for parents available here that talks in detail about the vaccination and consent.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1020602/PHE\\_12073\\_COVID-19\\_parents\\_leaflet.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1020602/PHE_12073_COVID-19_parents_leaflet.pdf)

This letter is in place of our usual fortnightly Chorlton Connection newsletter. Instead Chorlton Connection will be sent out next week to celebrate the end of our first half term.

Thank you for your cooperation and support

Chorlton High School

