



PRINCIPAL'S DAILY BULLETIN

Tuesday 8th September

I continue to be impressed by the way you are embracing the Covid-19 changes at the College. Some (such as wearing a face mask in corridors or in a high occupancy communal area such as the dining area, sanitising your hands as you arrive, after a break, after eating) do require a behaviour shift and I can see that you fully understand the reasons for these behaviour shifts, and that you are trying your best to comply with the new behaviours required. You need to keep doing this, so that these behaviours (such as wearing a face mask in corridors and higher occupancy communal areas, sanitising your hands as you arrive, at break, after eating) become a habit.

Some queries from some of you:

What is the expectation around the 1.5 hour remote learning session per subject?

In this 1.5 hour remote learning session per subject, you are expected to work independently on the work set by your subject teacher for this session. Ideally, you should try to complete this independent work during the timetabled remote session, but you are not required to do so, if this is inconvenient, for example, you are travelling to College for another taught lesson. However, you must complete this independent work to the deadline set by your subject teacher.

Your subject teacher will be available for you to contact at the timetable slot for this session, to respond to any queries you might have with this independent work.

If you cannot contact them during this timetable slot, for good reason, such as you are travelling to College for your next taught lesson, you should agree with them a mutually convenient time at which you can contact them, if you do have any queries with the independent work.

What happens if I display a Covid 19 symptom (a new continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change, in the individual's normal sense of taste or smell) at home or in College?

The DfE today (8th September) have just published updated guidance on this for Colleges. The Student Covid-19 Safety guidance will be updated to reflect this new guidance.

In essence, you are advised to follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (Covid-19) infection. This sets out that you must:

- Self-isolate for at least 10 days from the first day of displaying the symptom UNLESS you and everyone in your household tests negative for Covid-19. If this is the case you can return to College as soon as these negative test results have been received.
- Arrange for you (and everyone in your household) to have a test to see if you (or they) have the coronavirus (Covid-19)

You must notify us immediately that you are self-isolating for 10 days and with an anticipated return to College date. You can contact us to rearrange this return to College date, if you and everyone in your household tests negative for coronavirus (Covid-19)

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What will happen if someone at the College tests positive for Coronavirus (Covid-19), will the College close again?

We are required to report all positive tests for Coronavirus (Covid-19) in our College community to our local health protection team. The health protection team will work with us to carry out a rapid risk assessment and identify the appropriate next steps.

This is why it is important that if you test positive for Coronavirus (Covid-19) you notify us immediately.

Latest Covid-19 update: the steep case rate rise amongst young people aged 17-25

The recent rise in Coronavirus case rates is mainly among younger people aged 17-25.

It is not known why case rates are now higher among young people in this age group. But they are rising and steeply. The case rate for those aged 10-19, for example, has quadrupled.

This age group is at lower risk of dying of Covid but can still experience really serious symptoms and suffer long term health consequences.

Also this age group can transmit the virus to family members, teachers, and each other, helping to spread the virus back into the community, potentially at the cost of lives.

At College, we can't make the risk of transmission disappear but we can drastically reduce this risk.

Opening windows, requiring you to wear face masks in corridors and in higher occupancy communal areas, reducing the time large groups of you spend together in higher occupancy communal areas (through the timetable model of 2 on 1 off site lessons per subject, eliminating the morning break and potentially reducing the lunch break to 45 minutes, if also needed at some point), requesting that you wash or sanitise your hands more often than usual, and asking you to engage actively with the NHS Test and Track and Trace protocols (as above) are important ways we are trying to drastically reduce this risk.

So as we move into winter, please:

- Come to College in your warmest clothes
- Wear your face mask in corridors and in high occupancy communal areas, such as the two dining areas (the main dining area and Costa Café)
- Respect the Year Group zoning in place at the lunch break : Year 13 the main dining area; Year 12 Costa Cafe
- Wash or sanitise your hands more often than usual and, as a routine, on arrival, after a break, after eating
- Engage actively with the NHS Test and Track and Trace protocols, as relevant

Take care. Stay safe. Stay well, Angela Williams

