

# Update....



OAKFIELD ACADEMY

BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE

29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parent,

## **Covid Update:**

At the time of writing, there is only 1 confirmed positive case associated with the academy. However, our community case rate is still high and so we are required to continue with enhanced measures.

On Saturday 27 November, the Prime Minister announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK. The new measures will be introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the variant while they gather more information.

## **The following measures must be in place from tomorrow, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November:**

### **Face coverings:**

Face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings by staff, visitors and pupils in year 7 and above, unless they are exempt. Pupils (in year 7 or above) should continue to wear face coverings on public and dedicated school transport, unless they are exempt. Pupils in Years 5 and 6 are permitted to wear face coverings in communal areas too.

### **Contact tracing and isolation:**

The current guidance on contact tracing and isolation remains in place and is undertaken through NHS Test and Trace. In addition to these, any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly and told to isolate.

### **Vaccination:**

All eligible staff and pupils aged 12 and over are encouraged to take up the offer of the vaccine, including boosters. Vaccines are our best defence against COVID-19. They help protect young people and adults, and benefit those around them. Vaccination makes people less likely to catch the virus and less likely to pass it on.

To book a vaccination, please visit: Book or manage a coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination – NHS ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)).

### **Asymptomatic Screening (LFD Tests):**

This programme continues for Year 7 and 8 pupils and staff. We have been using Mondays and Thursdays as a 'rough' guide to remind them when to do them, but you can of course plan times that work best for your family.

- Only use twice weekly LFD testing for asymptomatic cases
- Make sure you do an LFD according to the instructions and at least 30 minutes after eating or drinking
- If you get a positive LFD or have symptoms get a PCR and use the supervised PCR testing route at a test centre to get the best quality test

Reporting ALL Results: When home testing it is your responsibility to report every result whether it is positive, negative or void. Register the result with the NHS here: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

### **Ofsted Update:**

Following our inspection we have continued with the training and development sessions that were part of our Improvement Priorities for this year. You will remember that we require improvement to meet the new Ofsted framework, in particular, developing our Curriculum design so that it better plans for ALL pupils and impacts on learning behaviours and progress for pupils with SEND.

Since the report we have:

- Held training opportunities for staff on applying the Behaviour policy and on our Achievement for Everyone project for identified families.
- Feedback to Trustees at each of the Committee meetings this term.
- Shared curriculum plans and priorities across all the departments at the academy.
- Held department curriculum development time at Twilight INSET sessions.
- Held staff training in the use of our new safeguarding software tool at Twilight INSET sessions.

- Key staff have attended the Education Endowment Foundation's, Effective Learning Behaviours research project and training which will be part of our development in December.
- The SEND team are engaged in the Whole Education regional research and development project, ready to incorporate here more widely next term.
- Our staff 'CPD' (development) teams have met to implement and test strategies researched across each of our priority areas.
- Assemblies are planned for December for pupils that will go through relevant aspects of the report and what we're working on together as a whole community.

Lots more to come next term. On speaking generally with a few parents, it is clear that some were not aware that the report comes from a 'snapshot' of lessons across the academy rather than every classroom being seen (regardless of the impact of absence through covid of significant numbers of staff and pupils at the time). This means that there were many classrooms and areas of the academy not seen at all over the two days.

#### **Scrooge: (KS2)**

Our two productions of Scrooge in Years 5 and 6 are busy rehearsing and the songs are sounding fabulous. Given the new restrictions, we are planning on recording these in the last week of term. For a school this size, we would need to put the performances on 13 times due to the size of audience allowed!! This simply isn't feasible.

#### **Christmas Lunch:**

Just a reminder to let us know via ParentPay what your choice is for our annual Christmas Dinner on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December, even if your child doesn't want a Christmas dinner. Christmas jumpers are allowed to be worn on this day.

#### **Christmas Fair:**

Sadly, we are not able to safely run our Christmas Fair again this year. We know many people look forward to joining us and the staff and Fundraisers will hopefully be able to plan more events for 2022 😊

And finally don't forget we finish at 2pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Emma Wilkes  
Head Teacher



Oakfield Academy  
Frome

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