October Half Term Update



30th October 2021

Dear Parent,

I hope you've all had a lovely half term break and apologies for interrupting ... but we have been asked to send some Public Health information out before the pupils return to school on Monday morning. Please be assured that we have revisited our Risk Assessments; developed an Outbreak Management Plan and worked alongside local Public Health teams to try to ensure a welcoming and positive experience for pupils and staff whilst maintaining an informed, pragmatic and reasonably cautious approach. We continue to adopt strong hygiene and cleaning procedures and use of ventilation. We still have the extended arrival window for pupils between 8.25 and 8.40 and staggered arrangements for break and lunch times and we have received our allocation of CO2 monitors. Outdoor activities are still encouraged and large, mixed gatherings are not taking place.

In addition to the measures already in place, we are following further recommendations as advised by the South West Directors of Public Health:

- Introduce face coverings in communal areas such as corridors when movement occurs between lessons and on school transport
- Promote social distancing and good infection prevention control amongst pupils and staff
 (e.g. You may see teachers distance teaching more from the front of the room again and remember good hand hygiene and 'catch it, kill it, bin it'!)
- Any close contacts of confirmed cases of Covid-19 identified by NHS Test & Trace must book a PCR test and whilst awaiting test results, undertake a daily LFD test and only attend school if this is negative

These additional measures will be in place until reviewed at the end of the first two weeks (by 15th November).

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. **PLEASE** remember that everyone needs to have completed a test before returning to school on Monday morning **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

Message from Nadhim Zahawi

The Secretary of State for Education, Nadhim Zahawi, has written an <u>open letter</u> to parents about the importance of children aged 12 to 15 getting their COVID-19 vaccine either at school, or at a local vaccination centre. We are due to host the immunisations teams here at Oakfield before the end of November (further details will be sent soon) when pupils with parental consent will be able to receive their COVID vaccinations.

Yours sincerely,





