

2 November 2021

Dear parents, guardians, carers,

Re. Covid Protective measures

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term.

I strongly suspect that your support for our protective measures has been a key reason for our school remaining relatively unscathed in the last half-term. In contrast, some Dorset schools have had to consider partial closures to cope with absences – both students and staff.

Unfortunately, the increase in cases is continuing among students and staff across the area and we are being advised by Public Health, Dorset to begin to apply more stringent approaches to ensure we stay healthy and remain open. At Poole High School, this week that we have seen a sudden rise in cases. I have no intention of making a 'knee-jerk' response, however the measures outlined below will be reviewed fortnightly:

The measures we will be following are below. I have emboldened the areas we most need your support with please:

- continued use of masks at transition points (between lessons) and on arrival and departure from school the site;
- ensuring all students including sixth formers are using a mask each day;
- More families need to increase their LFTs to at least two tests per week please, then follow the logging advice on our website here.
- support the school by observing isolation and getting PCR tests when asked;
- ensure as many eligible family members get vaccinated/boosters as possible;
- observe 'close contact' advice and do not send children to schools with symptoms of the virus.

There will be a delivery of LFT kits to students by the end of this week to go home. We shall consider more drastic social distancing steps, if the pattern of cases rises. It will only be with your support that we will be able to avoid the possibility of returning to teaching in Year Group Zones ('bubbles'), or potentially sending year groups home.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gray * Headteacher