



1st October, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Weekly Covid-19 Update:

Please can we remind you that if a pupil is part of a household with a positive Covid case, we require all parents to alert us in these circumstances. We are unable to follow our Risk Assessment and procedures if we are not notified of this information which means our pupils and staff are being put at unnecessary risk.

This week we have had ten positive cases (six children and four staff) and we are waiting for 8 PCR results following symptoms or close contact within the school. We thank you for your continued patience and cooperation in our efforts to keep pupils and staff as safe as possible and we will continue to advise you of new cases and close contact tracing within school.

### Ventilation/Warm clothes

Ventilation is key for all schools in their efforts to reduce transmission of the virus between pupils and this is recognised by all staff at Rackham who are ventilating their classrooms as much as possible every day. We are still waiting for our CO2 monitors from the DfE, but some schools have started to receive these now, so we do not anticipate having to wait too much longer. Please note the CO2 monitors only measure the carbon dioxide levels within the room, they do not filter the air or offer us anything other than an insight into which locations within school require improved ventilation. In keeping with advice from PHE, the DfE and the Local Authority, we will continue to ensure all internal and external windows and doors are open to encourage a constant flow of fresh air throughout the school. For this reason, classrooms are not particularly warm, and we know from last year that they will undoubtedly become much colder as we move into October and November. Please ensure your children are dressed warmly. We would advise lots of layers under their uniform and/ or additional jumpers or hoodies to wear on top. Please try to ensure any additional layers do not have any large logos or patterns on them, so that we can continue to look as smart as possible, and children will not be distracted.

### Parent Governor elections:

Due to staffing issues within the office next week, we have spoken to the Local Authority and agreed to delay the start of the election process until Monday 11th October. The result will be announced on Thursday 21st October.

As you will know, a parent from Rackham, Mr. Alistair McKenzie is raising money for our school by running the London Marathon this weekend! Please do consider sponsoring Alistair if you haven't already. The money raised by Alistair will benefit all pupils at Rackham. To donate, just click on this link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/alistair-mckenzie> It takes a lot of time and dedication to run a marathon so on behalf of all pupils and staff at Rackham, we would like to thank Alistair in advance of his run and wish him good luck.

We hope you have a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,



Headteacher