

5<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, following the rise in cases over half-term we have continued to have a small number of positive COVID cases this week. Whilst this is still within a manageable figure, we do not want it to increase and as such we have worked with the local public health team today to look at some additional short-term measures to reduce any further transmission risks. This is likely to last 2-3 weeks, as we continually review the situation.

These additional measures are outlined below and will be in place from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

- Staff mixing will be reduced in social areas such as the staffroom
- All assemblies and staff meetings will be virtual
- Lunchtimes will be staggered further, to limit indoor student mixing out of their Key Stage

The aim of these measures are to reduce pupil's mixing indoors where possible and to reduce staff mixing that isn't necessary to the running of the school. This is in addition to the cleaning, ventilation, mask wearing and testing measures already in place.

To clarify, this is short-term and we are not returning to a situation like last year with strict 'bubbles'.

We are very fortunate that the vast majority of our staff team are double vaccinated, however we are also very aware that the majority of our student population have not yet had a dose of the vaccine.

**If your child is over 12 years old and has not yet had a vaccine, we would continue to strongly recommend they are booked in to receive one.**

Many thanks as always for your continued support. Again, I cannot stress how important regular lateral flow testing is amongst families to support the early detection of cases and I would encourage all families to partake in this, for both secondary aged students and all parents/carers. Please do let us know if you require more home test kits to support your child or yourself in this.

Yours sincerely,

Ruchi Datta  
Headteacher

