

8th November 2021

Dear families,

### **Re: Further extension of measures required to tackle local rise in COVID-19 cases**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> October I wrote to families about the need for a return to some of the measures put in place during the previous phases of the pandemic. There was a hope that this would be a short-term fix and that we would quickly be able to return to some semblance of normality as we head into the run up to Christmas. Seeing students once again making progress in the classroom, getting stuck into clubs, and being able to socialise with their peers has been heart-warming to see. However, we are still overshadowed by the pandemic and must be guided by local and national advice on this matter.

Unfortunately, Telford and Wrekin continue to have incredibly high infection rates and so we will be unable to lift any of the current restrictions we implemented at the start of October. We have received advice from the Local Authority and Health Protection Hub at the start of the new term that all schools are being guided to re-introduce all COVID control measures. We have implemented most of these already, but I have highlighted them below in case any have changed. I have also highlighted key protocol changes, information about vaccines, how it will affect upcoming school events, and a reminder of the upcoming PD day.

### **Key protocol changes affecting families**

The key change to protocol enforced by the Local Authority that families need to be aware of is that; if a child is in a household with a positive case, they must continue to undertake LFT's for 7 days from the point the member of the household returned their positive PCR result. They can still however be in school whilst this process is ongoing.

### **Other COVID control measures in place in school**

#### **Face masks**

All staff and students will be expected to wear face coverings in the buildings at all times. They will also be expected to wear them on school transport.

#### **Staggered end to the day**

Students will return to the staggered end to the day and shorter lunchtime. This means that period 6 will begin at 2.05pm. Students will leave the school site at the following times:

Year 7: 3.05pm

Year 8: 3.07pm

Year 9: 3.09pm

Year 10: 3.11pm

Year 11: 3.13pm



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## Year group bubbles and clubs

Students remain within their year group bubbles at all times. The only exception to this would be during clubs where there are multiple year groups attending. If this is the case, then the member of staff leading the activity will ensure that those attending remain within their own year group bubbles during the activity.

To ensure the bubbles can be maintained within the canteen, students will access via different doors at breaktime and be encouraged to eat their purchased food in their designated year group social areas. If they chose to stay within the canteen there will be limited seating space and students will be expected to sit only in areas designated for their year group. At lunchtime, the queue will be staggered so that those in years 10 and 11 will have access at a different time to years 7, 8 and 9.

## Online meetings and assemblies

Assemblies and other large gatherings will be completed online. If a meeting does need to be called where it is difficult to conduct the meeting online (Platinum students for example) then these meetings will be conducted in a large space with social distancing enforced. They will also be kept as short as possible.

## School visitors

All school visitors will be expected to wear a mask on entering the school building and adhere to social distancing rules of a 2 metre distance.

## Carbon Dioxide monitors

The school has now received its allocation of carbon dioxide monitors which have been placed around the school. The school has measures to put in place should levels of CO<sub>2</sub> rise to a poor level however as of yet there have been no concerns around levels of CO<sub>2</sub> and all figures have come back in the 'Good' category.

## Vaccinations

The NHS have sent us updated information on vaccinations amongst 12 to 15 year olds. The following paragraphs are taken directly from this advice.

Due to additional vaccination clinics being opened up across Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin for 12 to 15 year olds, helping to improve access to the COVID-19 vaccination, the School-Aged Immunisation Service have made the decision not to return to those schools where less than 50 children were unable to receive the vaccine on the day, (due to absence or if a child had COVID-19 up to 28 days prior to the school vaccination session).

At Burton Borough, the team has calculated that there were less than 50 children unable to receive the vaccine on the day they attended the school and will therefore will not be planning a return visit.



The following options are now available:

- Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt (RJAH) Vaccination Centre:
  - Appointments booked online via the National Booking System using the following link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/> or call NHS 119 to book an appointment.
- Walk-in Clinics (no appointment required, limited vaccine availability):
  - Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt (RJAH) Vaccination Centre, Oswestry, SY10 7AG Mon to Sat 9-5 Sun closed.
  - Turreff Hall, Turreff Avenue, Donnington, Telford, TF2 8HG on Wednesday and Thursday's 4pm to 7pm and Saturday mornings 9am to 2pm

**Please check for days and times clinics are being held:** COVID-19 Vaccination Walk-in and Pop-up Clinics (stwics.org.uk)

- Pop-up Clinics:  
Will be providing in various places around the county. Parents are advised to regularly check this site for more details on upcoming pop-up clinics for 12-15 year olds: COVID-19 Vaccination Walk-in and Pop-up Clinics (stwics.org.uk)

## Staff PD Day

Just a reminder that there is a staff professional development day on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November** and therefore school will be closed to students.

## Other upcoming events

It is a real shame that we continue to be unable to welcome parents into the building. For many of our parents we appreciate that you have never had a chance to have a look around or put a name to a face and we share this frustration. In November we have a number of important dates, notably for year 9 families. Staff who are organising these events will contact families and ensure you have the correct information required to access them online.

- 16<sup>th</sup> November: Year 9 Online options evening
- 18<sup>th</sup> November Year 9 parent evening
- 24<sup>th</sup> November: Parent safeguarding evening event

Yours sincerely,



Ben Morgan  
Acting Principal



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