

13 July 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

I am writing to inform you that, due to a cluster of cases in Year 9, and following advice from the DfE this afternoon, I have taken the decision to request that Year 9 students remain at home from tomorrow through until the end of term. I have not taken this decision lightly, but we already have over 100 Year 9 students self-isolating and 5 positive cases.

We will switch to remote learning from tomorrow for Year 9 so your child can use Microsoft Teams to have on-line lessons that match their timetable. I do apologise for taking this action but it is important that we control any spread of this pernicious virus.

Normal provision will still run in school for Year 7, 8, 10 and 12 and we are maintaining all additional measures such as Year Group social bubbles and additional cleaning. The DfE advisor I spoke to said that the wearing of face masks for students is still optional but that, given the increase in infection rates generally students should be encouraged to wear these – certainly in corridors and communal areas. With the 19 July looming, we would like students to take individual responsibility for their own health and safety so we are encouraging, but not mandating, the wearing of facemasks for these last few days of term.

Can I remind you to do your final two lateral flow tests – Thursday 15 and Monday 19 July. One of the main reasons we have been able to keep infection rates low up until now has been down to your support – doing those regular tests and keeping your child at home if required.

Let's hope the Summer is a good circuit breaker and that we can all return to a more settled September.

Yours sincerely

Chris Ingate

Dr C Ingate
Principal

Principal - Dr Chris Ingate

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