



SIR TOM FINNEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Ribbleton Hall Drive, Preston, PR2 6EE

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Headteacher Mr Shaun Jukes PGCE, BPhil (special education)

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04.01.2022

Dear Parents/Carers and Guardians

As you will all be aware from the media and Government, Coronavirus and its variants are still prevalent and the latest variant, Omicron, is highly transmissible.

As such schools received updated guidance and precautions this weekend, to add to the contingency arrangements already in place.

Secondary students are recommended to wear face coverings in class unless exempt. The vast majority of our young people are exempt because of their needs and disability; however, some may still wish to follow the guidance as recommended and will be allowed to do so.

It is also recommended that students, wherever possible, take a Lateral Flow Device Test (LFD) twice a week. I urge all to follow this guidance and test kits are available from school if required.

Schools have also been asked to remain as vigilant as possible with regard to signs and symptoms, both the classic ones of temperature, new persistent cough or loss of taste/smell, and newer ones associated with the variant – significant headache, fatigue and cold-like runny nose and tickly throat.

In line with this any individual young person who shows any of the classic or newer signs or symptoms of the virus whilst in school must be collected ASAP and undergo a confirmatory PCR test either at a test centre or via a postal test as soon as possible. Letting school know the result for recording purposes.

If the PCR is positive and the individual is vaccinated the 10-day self-isolation period can be cut short if evidence of a negative lateral flow test can be given on day 6 and day 7 of the isolation period. Returning on day 8. If evidence is not available, the 10-day period remains. If unvaccinated the 10-day period of self-isolation must be completed prior to returning to school.



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Should it be determined that any positive cases are linked within school this will trigger our contingency management plans and may mean the re-introduction of department 'bubbles' and minimising mixing across departments and timetable reduction or changes.

School continues to follow the national guidance and local health advice for specialist schools and has a range of organisational and operational practise in place to minimise the risks to all whilst in school and will do our very best to ensure a balanced, reasonable, and proportionate approach to meeting the requirements of the guidance.

Thank you, everybody, for your help and support in the matters above as we all continue to do our very best to keep everyone associated with school safe and virus free.

Regards

Shaun Jukes
Headteacher