



SIR TOM FINNEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

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News and information

We have finally reached the end of a most challenging school year for everyone. The pandemic has certainly taken its toll on students, families, and colleagues in school both personally and professionally.

Throughout it all the staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that the guidance is followed and that wherever possible teaching and learning, communication and support to young people and families has continued whether in school or remotely.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support, patience and understanding during the past year as we all have had to respond and react to changes often at very short notice.

September

Following Government announcements about reducing legal restrictions (*Step 4 of the Government Roadmap*), schools have been sent guidance which outlines the approaches expected from September.

There will no longer be requirements to wear face coverings or operate in 'bubbles' and the requirement for schools to follow up any close contacts to someone testing positive for coronavirus will be passed onto NHS track and trace. However, should there be local 'outbreaks' or increases in cases, Public Health England may request these are re-instated in schools locally for a period of time.

The Control Measures which are expected to be in place from September:

- **Good Hand hygiene** – washing regularly or sanitising regularly or both
- **Good respiratory hygiene** – catch it, kill it bin it mantra – for sneezes, blowing noses etc.
- **Good cleaning regimes and schedules** with compliant cleaning materials and resources
- **Good ventilation and air flow**
- Staff will continue to test 2x/week and report this, with Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) throughout September and this is to be reviewed by the DFE at end of month



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- School will retain some testing capacity on site
- Schools should encourage further take up of LFD tests going home for students – **SHOULD YOU REQUIRE ANY PACKS LET THE SCHOOL OFFICE KNOW**
- A positive LFD result means **YOU MUST** go for a confirmatory PCR test
- If someone presents with any symptoms linked to coronavirus, **they must NOT attend school** and should book a PCR test, self-isolating until the result is known if it is positive then they must self-isolate for 10 days and follow details given by track and trace
- If someone has symptoms in school – **They MUST be sent home** and should book PCR test –if it is positive, then they must self-isolate for 10 days and follow details given by track and trace

Goodbyes

We say goodbye to all our **Leavers** from year 14, many of whom have been with us since they were 11 years old and are now 19 years old (20yr old in a couple of cases)

We also say goodbye to some long serving members of staff who are retiring; Mr Markland who has led our music and singing to much acclaim in performances and through accreditation and examination. And Mrs Billington MBE, Deputy Head who been at the forefront of supporting young people and their families for many years.

We have not been able to give them all the send-off we would have liked but wish them all well and good luck in the future wherever life takes them.

Finally

We re-open for staff In-service days on Wednesday 1st September and Thursday 2nd September **and for students on Friday 3rd September** and we will see some changes as we welcome a new cohort of young people joining us as well as new staff and the project to develop the upper floor gets under way.

Until then, borrowing a phrase from the Director of Public Health Northwest

'Health is Wealth'

please continue to act responsibly and stay as safe as possible and enjoy the summer sunshine