



5<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Covid Update and In-School Measures**

We have seen Covid case rates reduce significantly over half term, with those with positive PCR tests reducing to around a quarter of the 'peak' just before half term. However, in line with other schools and the local areas, they are still significantly above where we were in September, averaging about 8 per year-group (about 2.5% of the student body).

Having liaised with the local Health Protection Team the following measures will remain in place from Monday:

- Unless exempt, students will be required to wear a face covering in indoor areas such as corridors, Common Rooms and dining areas (unless eating).
- Students will not be required to wear a face covering once sat down in lessons or when outside.
- Unfortunately, we have had to issue nearly 100 disposable masks a day on average since bringing masks back in, so we will need to start charging for face coverings that are issued from Monday. Please ensure that your child has at least one spare face covering in case one breaks or becomes dirty.
- Assemblies will continue to be held 'virtually' with students remaining in tutor bases.
- Students will be asked to be particularly vigilant on hand hygiene (including the use of hand sanitiser on the way into and out of lessons and dining facilities) and cleaning of desks at the end of lessons.

The following will change:

- Students should return to testing twice a week, before school on a Monday and a Thursday morning. Please ensure test results are logged via the school's 'TestRegister' system as well as via the gov.uk site.
- With Year 11 cases having reduced very significantly (and now lower than other years) we will end the bubbling arrangements for Year 11.

As always, please ensure that any PCR test results (positive or negative) are reported to the school immediately (via [attendance@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:attendance@gordanoschool.org.uk)).

### **Flu and Covid Vaccinations for 12- to 15-year-olds**

I'm relieved that these have gone smoothly this week and that the vast majority of students who consented were able to access their vaccination(s).

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For any parents who still wish for their child to receive a Covid vaccination please book through the online NHS vaccination booking service (waiting 28 days after a positive Covid test where relevant):

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

For those wishing to get a flu vaccination please contact your GP.

### **Returning from Isolation Questionnaire**

We'd be grateful if any students who have been isolating and therefore accessing remote learning could complete a short questionnaire before returning to school, to help us evaluate the provision we've set up:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wwKbEeKstEKPNgL1svSOdHUKsNqM46hFrVpoGmWNGoRUQzFWWINDQkg3RjZGRINNOU9SR09YV1ZMQS4u>

### **Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R)**

Just a reminder that all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will need a reading book with them at all times; our first D.E.A.R session, as part of our wider literacy strategy, is this week!

### **Wellbeing support and advice - Kooth webinar for parents and carers**

There is a variety of support available for students in school, and in addition to this, we regularly signpost students, parents and carers to other avenues of support available outside of school. One such organisation is Kooth, which many of you will already be familiar with, as we have been promoting their support and advice services for some time. Kooth.com is available to young people in North Somerset and provides free, safe and anonymous wellbeing support and advice. Kooth are holding a webinar for parents and carers on 8<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm for those who would like to know more about the service. Places can be booked through this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/south-west-central-kooth-parent-carer-information-session-tickets-198299648587>

Have a safe and enjoyable Fireworks Night!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom Inman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tom Inman  
Headteacher