



4th January 2022

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Following on from my letter at the end of the Autumn term, I would like to update you on arrangements for this coming half term.

We are expecting to welcome all pupils back on Thursday 6th January. Very little has changed in terms of how the school will operate – our main aim, as always is to work within the National guidance to limit the spread of the virus within school and ensure pupils are able to attend school and learn in safety. Pupils are still expected to wear masks whilst in the school building and on home/school transport and I ask again for your co-operation in ensuring that the pupils are equipped with their own mask and that you reinforce the importance of wearing this (obviously there are exemptions for some pupils).

The new guidance encourages pupils to undertake an LFD test before they attend school on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday and record results on the Welsh Government system. If the result is positive then a PCR test should be booked. We will issue a 1 week supply of tests to pupils for them to come home on Friday. Following that, if pupils require more tests, they will be available for collection from the canteen at the end of the day every Friday.

The rules around self-isolation for contacts has changed. The guidance is as follows: "All over 18's who are fully vaccinated (having received 2 full doses of an approved vaccine) and children aged 5-17 are now asked to take lateral flow tests every day for 7 days." It is recommended that these tests are taken before school each day. **There is no need to self-isolate unless there is a positive LFD test or symptoms develop.** Children under the age of 5 are not required to self-isolate or test as contacts.

The main challenge for schools over the coming weeks is going to be with staffing levels. I am hopeful that we will not need to utilise any periods of remote learning but if there is a need to do so, we will give you as much notice as we possibly can.

I am sure that you can appreciate that the current situation regarding the Pandemic is constantly changing and we will try to communicate any changes to you as quickly as possible.

Kind Regards

Shaun Clarke
Headteacher

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