



18 October 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Covid cases within the School Community

After an influx of positive covid-19 cases this morning, we currently have in excess of 90 staff and students who have tested positive on either a lateral flow device or on a PCR test. We have escalated this to the UK Health Security Agency and are awaiting further guidance.

In the meantime and in order to keep our school community as safe as possible, please can I ask:

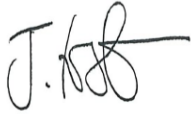
- **That all students undertake regular tests at home.** Our usual guidance is that these are carried out twice a week. However, given the current level of cases and that many of the symptoms of the latest variants can be confused with those of a cold, you may wish to carry out tests daily. Please can these tests be carried out the evening or morning before the student comes into school. Please note that we are unable to carry out these tests in school. If your child is displaying any Covid-19 symptoms, you will be asked to collect your child and undertake a test. Further tests can be collected from Student Services;
- **That students wear masks in school.** Further to our letter of last week, students are **recommended** to wear masks where possible. Please can you support your child to bring in clean masks, to replace them regularly and to wear them properly;
- **That you co-operate with our latest guidance.** If a member of the household tests positive on a lateral flow or a PCR test, students will be unable to attend school until a negative PCR test result is received. If your child receives notification from NHS Test & Trace that they are recommended to get a PCR test having been in close contact with a positive case, they will be unable to attend school until a negative PCR result is received.

Please remember that covid vaccinations for students in Years 8-11 are scheduled for Friday 22 October. If you would like your child to be vaccinated, consent must be provided by **12pm on Thursday 21 October**. See [here](#) for further information and the link to the consent form.

If you do need to report a positive Covid-19 result for your child, please email us on Meroffice@maidenerleghtrust.org, specifying the name and tutor group of your child, the type of device (lateral flow or PCR), the date of the test and the date that symptoms started. **Please note that work for isolating students will be set on Google Classroom, please check that before contacting the school for work for your child.** We are experiencing extremely high volumes of calls each morning and apologise if you have been unable to reach us. All other absences should be reported to merattendance@maidenerleghtrust.org.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation. This is an extremely challenging time for the entire community at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading and we must each do all that we can to keep our community as safe as possible.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Foster
Business Manager
Maiden Erlegh School in Reading