



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Gibson

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7 June 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Students Return to School

I am writing to update you on our COVID risk reduction plans for when students return tomorrow. As you will have seen, the local area (not our specific catchment) has been advised to surge test as a result of an increased number of people testing positive for a variant of concern. More information can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/surge-testing-to-be-deployed-in-reading-and-wokingham>

As a result, we have today revised our risk assessments and following information provided by the Local Authority and Public Health, as well as meeting with other headteachers, I have made the decision to reintroduce face coverings in all indoor settings including classrooms as a preventative measure. This will be reviewed regularly to ensure that it is not in place for longer than is needed. We are not able to make this mandatory but we are, of course, strongly recommending it to protect our community. Should you not wish your child to wear a face covering, please email Mrs Bhadye via the school office to allow her to provide them with a lanyard so staff do not continually ask them to wear one. I would like to thank you in advance for your support on this.

I would also like students to complete a LFT today or tomorrow morning before school to ensure they are up to date with testing. Many young people are asymptomatic and with the rules relaxed, I am sure many will have socialised in line with guidance over the break. By identifying asymptomatic cases now, we will be able to stop any spread and also prevent students from missing school via isolation. If the test is positive, a PCR test must be booked for confirmation reasons. Please can you also log the test result here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSckP7lwmxGlfYZkLN5P2aUHq1wxYRD_Td-oqm4_5s29qd8QQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

I also want to remind parents that students, where possible, should bring hand sanitiser into school and use it at the start and end of every lesson.

The previously arranged fixtures with Piggott have been postponed until Friday 18 June at the earliest to ensure we can find out more information about surge testing and the likely impact on schools.

I am sorry to start the half term with a negative letter but we must ensure that we do all we can to keep the community safe and these small steps will help us do that.

I look forward to having the students back onsite tomorrow.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gibson
Headteacher