



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Guardian

COVID Update for Whole School

Yesterday I met with Public Health at the Local Authority, and I wanted to write to you with further updates.

Numbers of COVID cases across all Wokingham Borough schools continue to increase and are at a high level. Therefore, I wanted to write to you to stress how important it is for us to all play our part in ensuring that we are being as safe as we possibly can. This includes continuing to wear face coverings when moving around in buildings within the school. A good habit would be for students to remember to put these on as soon as their lessons finish, ready to move to their next area. Additionally, it remains incredibly important to ensure students continue to test twice a week using LFTs.

You may be aware of recent news articles regarding false negative results for PCR tests recently. We would advise that if your child has a positive LFT, then a negative PCR, but then continues to test positive on another LFT after their PCR, that they should isolate to help reduce any potential transmission.

It is important to note that Year 11 cases are high. Therefore, please can this year group ensure they are doing all they can to stay safe. This is particularly important given that students are working towards their exams in the summer. We would encourage this year group to increase their LFT testing to 3 times per week on the lead up to half term.

I would also like to share the positive news that case numbers are relatively low in our sixth form. We believe this to be because of a large portion of our sixth form students being vaccinated. Hopefully a similar effect will be evident across Years 8-11 once we are back from half term and the protection from their first jab begins to play a part in protecting the community.

I am hopeful that all these factors, and a big push on ensuring we follow these measures, will result in keeping our community as safe as possible on the lead up to half term. This should put us in good stead for when all students return after the half term. I would like to recommend that students be cautious with mixing over the half term and ensure that they are implementing social distancing and staying in well ventilated areas to reduce the likelihood of any transmission. Students deserve to have an enjoyable half term break, but it is important that we do not undo their hard work.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gibson
Headteacher