

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Firstly, I hope you have all had a restful and happy time over the past two weeks. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back into school on Wednesday.

We have been advised today of some changes that the government is requiring schools to make from the start of term. I have highlighted some of these below.

Face Coverings

The Government is temporarily recommending that face coverings are worn in classrooms and teaching spaces for students in year 7 or above, in light of the Omicron variant surge. The advice is short term only to support pupils and staff as they return to schools this term and builds on the existing guidance that we already had in place.

The advice on face coverings in classrooms will be in place until January 26th, when Plan B regulations are currently scheduled to expire, at which point it will be reviewed.

Please can you ensure that your child has a suitable face covering with them every day, preferably a reusable one.

Changes to Self Isolation

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. If both these test results are negative, and the person does not have a high temperature, they may end their self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to school from day 8.

Remote Learning

If your child has to self-isolate, and is well enough to work, they should initially try to join the lesson remotely, by logging into their Google Classroom and clicking on the link to join the video stream. If this is unavailable, then work should be available via the Google Classroom assignments, [Show My Homework](#) (SatchelOne) or National Oak Academy (<https://classroom.thenational.academy>). They should follow their normal school timetable.

Covid Testing – Tuesday 4th January

As you are already aware, Covid testing will take place in school on Tuesday 4th January. There has been some changes to the originally published venues, as follows:

Year 7: testing in West Gym until 3:15pm

Year 8 and 9: testing in Drama Studio until 3:15pm

Years 10 and 11: testing in East Gym until 3:15pm

Years 12 and 13: testing in the 6th form Hub until 3:15pm

If you have an appointment booked from 3:30pm to 5:30pm your testing will take place in the 6th form Hub (entrance via the canteen), no matter which year group.

Gates

As stated at the end of last term, the two field gates onto the cycle paths will be locked at 8:45am each morning. Please remind your child to leave sufficient time to get to school by 8:45am every morning.

As ever, if you have any queries please contact the school using office@springwoodhighschool.co.uk, or phoning 01553 773393.

Wishing you best wishes for the New Year,

N Wills
Associate Headteacher