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16 September 2021

Dear parents/carers

### Re. Covid-19 Update - temporary changes to mitigation measures

The number of students who have tested positive for COVID-19 this term remains at a **very low percentage** of the school population. However, due to an **increase** in positive cases of Covid-19 within the school community over the last few days, we have met with the Local Authority and Environmental Health today in order to gain advice on any further mitigation measures we can put in place as a school.

The mitigation measures that we **currently** have in place are already classed as **"high"** level. These are:

- Allocated gates for different year groups on arrival at school
- Staggered and zoned lunch breaks
- One way-systems in the school buildings
- Sanitising when entering school buildings and classrooms
- Encouraging students to distance themselves from others
- Desks facing the front
- Maximising ventilation in classrooms - doors and windows open
- Face coverings in communal areas
- Encouraging students and staff to take LFD testing twice weekly (Wednesday and Sunday)
- Cleaning of student work areas on changeover of lessons

However, we will be adding one additional measure from tomorrow (**Friday 17 September 2021**) onwards. Students in **Year 9** and **Year 10** will be expected to wear **face coverings** in **classrooms** (exemptions still apply). This is a **temporary measure** and will be reviewed next week with the Local Authority and Environmental Health. All the other measures mentioned above will remain in place.

Please note that the Welsh Government are no longer recommending that year group bubbles or close contacts automatically isolate when there is a positive case in the year group. Instead, a "warn and inform" letter is issued to those identified as a close contact through TTP.

We would encourage **all** our students, from Year 7 through to Year 13, to continue LFD testing on a Wednesday and Sunday to further mitigate against Covid-19. Extra LFD tests will be available from our student support centre reception and student reception for students to collect at any time as long as we have received [parental consent](#).

Please continue to be vigilant for symptoms. If you are in any doubt, please order a PCR test for your child at [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test) or by calling 119.

Anyone with symptoms should remain in self-isolation until the test result is known.

You can find the latest information on self-isolation at: [www.gov.wales/self-isolation](http://www.gov.wales/self-isolation)

We are asking that all correspondence regarding a positive LFD/PCR test result is shared to [covid19@stjuliansschool.co.uk](mailto:covid19@stjuliansschool.co.uk) or for a POSITIVE test result during the school day, please contact us on 01633 224490 - Option 0.

Please rest assured that case numbers will be monitored in liaison with Environmental Health and further action will be taken as advised.

We recognise how difficult the past 18 months have been and the sacrifices that all families have had to make. Thank you for everything you have done to support your child and the school.

Yours faithfully



Mr. D. Curtis  
Headteacher/Pennaeth