

29th November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

REF: Increased COVID 19 Measure in Queensbury School.

Over recent weeks, nationally and in Birmingham we have seen an increase in people testing positive for Covid. You may have seen the news over the weekend regarding the Omicron variant for Covid 19. This morning, the leadership teams met with the Covid Test Team and we are re-introducing some greater control measures. We have also been in regular contact with Public Health England, Contact Tracing and the Trust, as a result, we are increasing some of our measures:

Additional Control Measures:

1. **FACE MASKS:** Face Masks are to be worn in communal spaces and when having to work less than 2m with another person. (Staff and Students).
2. **PPE: PPE (Masks, Gloves Aprons)** to be worn by staff if having to work less than 2m for prolonged period of time (Guidance Times).
3. **Hand washing/Hygiene:** Time will be factored into lessons for students to wash hands or use alcohol gel frequently.
4. **Social Distancing:** To work at Social Distance were possible. If having to work closely (Less than 1m) for more than 1 minute PPE should be worn, or within 1-2m for more than 15mins.
5. **Assemblies:** These will be **cancelled till Christmas**. In January they will **run via Teams** in each form base / class.
6. **Meetings:** Meetings are to run **virtually** for vast majority of meetings (e.g. EHCP's).
7. **Student (Lateral Flow Device) LFD Testing:** The Covid Testing Team (in school) will be testing all students (with consent) **every Monday within Form classes until Christmas**. On Mondays, lessons till break time will remain in Form Classes to allow sufficient time and generation of results.
8. **LFD Testing of children by Parents:** Parents will need to continue to lateral flow twice weekly (*on a Sunday night and Wednesday night*) and inform the school if a positive LFD. Contact school reception on Tel: 0121 373 5731, or via the online form <https://queensburysch.com/students-covid-19-form/>

9. **Staff / LFD Testing:** Staff will test themselves on a Sunday night and Wednesday Night and report through the staff online LFD testing system in school.

10. **Bubbles:** We will be trying to keep students within Key Stage bubbles as much as possible. Lunches will remain in Key Stages. Breaks and morning break will have the return of the 3 playground zones from this week. As transport is not operated by the school, we will be working with HATS and the local authority who may change their measures in the future.

11. **Students with symptoms:** If a student has symptoms in class they will be self-isolated and then LFD tested by the Covid test team. Parents will be contacted if the results are positive and they will need to be picked up immediately and booked for a PCR test. They can return to school once a PCR Test is negative or have self-isolated for 10 days from symptoms.

12. **School Trips/Community Access:** Public Health have advised that school trips and community access is suspended until further notice.

13. **Christmas Fair:** This unfortunately has been cancelled.

14. **Cleaning:** Cleaning zones, frequency, intensity, and duration reviewed and new cleaning rota in place.

Useful Links

- COVID Measures Info: <https://queensburysch.com/corona-virus/>

- Report a student LFD test: <https://queensburysch.com/students-covid-19-form/>

I would like to thank parents/carers, staff and our students for their continued support. If required in the future, any closures of a class, will revert to our Remote/Virtual Learning procedures. To date, this academic year, we have not had to close any provision and would much prefer to operate with face to face delivery within school.

Yours sincerely



Mr Chris Wilson

Executive Head Teacher