



Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

14th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

There is hopeful news regarding the infection peak of Omicron having passed, the possibility of an Omicron specific vaccine by Easter and I am hopeful that we will be able to remove masks in classrooms when this is reviewed.

As always, I have kept the reminders in as well as key, new updates.

Staff Absence

Our staffing levels have been affected by the case rate but we have been able to source some excellent, specialist cover. As we have done through the pandemic we also have staff isolating who teach from home and as a result we have weathered the initial storm well. I will update you if anything changes but I always want to ensure that students continue to get high quality teaching from specialists in their areas wherever possible.

Year 11 Engage Evening

On Monday 17th January it is the Year 11 Engage (Revision) Evening which will be via pre-recorded videos from key members of staff looking at the best way to support our Year 11 students. Mrs Comiskey will send an email on Monday with all the links to the videos for parents/carers to watch to enable you to fully support your child in the coming months.

Lateral Flow Tests (Home Testing)

Thank you so much for your support in continuing to perform Lateral Flow Tests at home. We will continue to issue the kits through form time and will only delay if we have supply issues.

The link to reporting results to the NHS is here: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. The link to report results to us is here: <https://forms.gle/RKzCqrFhzDS4CFK87> (please also call or email the school if you test positive).

If I test positive, how long do I isolate for? NEW GUIDANCE

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day

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5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Sporting Fixtures

Year 11 boys Football

Ilkley GS 4 vs 3 Horsforth

Player of the match – Niall

Year 10 boys Football

St Mary's Menston 6 vs 2 Horsforth

Player of the match – Ollie

Lots of positive news regarding case rates and their direction of travel means we are planning positively for the future. We are looking at getting back towards our previous trips offer (local, national and international eventually) as we move towards Spring and Summer. Measures in school are working well and on my regular walks around the school the climate for learning is excellent. I look forward to the remainder of this term with great optimism!

Thank you for your continued support, kind messages and patience.

Take care, stay safe and best wishes.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher