



5th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

COVID-19 Arrangements

The detail below has been sent to all schools from the Department for Education at the end of last week which I wanted everyone to be aware of if you are not already:

'On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the [next steps for living with COVID-19](#) in England from Friday 1 April.

Free COVID-19 tests will continue to be available for specific groups, including eligible patients and NHS staff, once the universal testing offer ends on Friday 1 April.

Updated guidance will advise:

Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.

Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.

For education and childcare settings from Friday 1 April:

Regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education or childcare setting, including in SEND, alternative provision and children's social care settings. Therefore, settings will no longer be able to order test kits'

The Last Few Weeks..

Have been busy at school with Year 11 and Year 9 having examinations in our School Hall. For students who have not had the opportunity to sit papers in a formal manner due to COVID-19, these have been invaluable. We have received some lovely comments from our invigilators around how the students have approached this. House and school forums have also been meeting to discuss areas of importance for the students and it has been good to hear their feedback.

End of Term

A reminder that Friday is the end of term and that we finish at the normal time of 3.20pm.

Start of Summer Term

School will begin for all students on Monday 25th April. Year 13 are going into some practice examinations straight away when we return as part of their preparation for the summer.

Future Trips

We are launching, in coming weeks, a number of trips for the academic year 2022/23. The school has worked closely with the company True Adventure taking expeditions to locations such as Costa Rica and Borneo in the past. We are launching a trip with them for the current Year 10, 11 and 12 students to **Morocco** which will take place **in July 2023** <https://true-adventure.co.uk/trip/chew-valley-2023/>. Students will hear about this in assemblies straight after the Easter break and we have an information evening for parents and carers in the Hall on Tuesday 3rd May at 7pm. We are also launching a ski trip for February half term 2023 to Saalbach in Austria with more details to follow after the holidays. After a long gap due to COVID-19, it is good to have opportunities in place for our young people once more.

And finally...

Can I wish everyone a good Easter break. School will remain busy with Year 11 students attending our Easter Study Camp during the first week. Can I once again thank you for all of your support during this period since Christmas.

With best wishes



Gareth Beynon
Headteacher