



3rd December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

COVID-19 Update

On Saturday 27th November, the Prime Minister announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK. As a school we were already wearing masks, other than those who were exempt, in our indoor communal areas and we will continue to do this. Having recently brought assemblies back we are not going to have them running, apart from the Sixth Form, whilst Year 11 mocks are taking place over the next few weeks. We are hopefully looking at a number of Christmas events taking place; however we will continue to monitor the situation carefully moving forward and we could possibly need to change things at short notice.

It is important bearing in mind the current situation that students continue to test at home twice a week and follow the clear guidance. I have included the link to the latest guidance for parents, carers and students from the government here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

'The most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough*
- a high temperature*
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)*

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if you have any of the symptoms above, even if your symptoms are mild, stay at home and do arrange to have a test. There are several other symptoms linked with COVID-19. These other symptoms may have another cause and are not on their own a reason to have a COVID-19 test. If you are concerned about your symptoms, seek medical advice.

If adults or children have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine and have symptoms of COVID-19 or have received a positive test result, you should still follow this guidance. This is because it is still possible to get COVID-19 and spread it to others even if you are vaccinated.'

Christmas Plans

We have been planning our Christmas activities and (COVID dependent) our programme is currently as follows:

- Monday 13th December - Chew's Got Talent videos are shared with tutor groups
- Tuesday 14th December - Carol Service in St Andrew's Church, Chew Magna between 9am and 11am for
Year 7 - Students are walked down by staff
- Christmas Lunch - All Year 7 students are given a free lunch on this day
- Thursday 16th December - Sixth Form debate
- House Rewards Event P1&2
- Friday 17th December - Year 11 reward session

End of Term

Another reminder that term will finish for all students on Friday 17th December at 12.05pm. Coaches will be advised of the early finish and will run accordingly.

INSET Day on Tuesday 4th January 2022 – Opportunity for Testing

The government has again requested that schools test students before they come back to school following the Christmas break. We are intending on doing this on **Tuesday 4th January which is an INSET day**. More details will follow about how to give consent for testing.

With very best wishes

Gareth Beynon
Headteacher