17th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Tests**

A couple of updates regarding recent changes to LFD testing and self-isolation periods:

- From last Tuesday, the self-isolation period can be begun immediately after a positive asymptomatic LFD test result (although I suspect still wanting to take a subsequent PCR test would be understandable). If a positive LFD test result is accompanied by symptoms then a PCR test should still be taken.

- From today, students who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to finish their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a LFD test on both Day 5 and Day 6 and they do not have a high temperature. For example, if a negative result is returned first thing in the morning of Day 5, and on the morning of Day 6, students can then end their self-isolation and return to school immediately on Day 6. Please note that 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. If the result of either test is positive, self-isolation must be continued until negative results are returned from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until the full 10 days of self-isolation have been completed, whichever is earliest. If a student continues to have a temperature then they will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

**2nd Dose Vaccinations**

The dates when second doses of the Covid vaccine will be offered to our students have now been proposed:

- Monday 14th March - Years 8 and 9
- Tuesday 15th March - Years 7, 10 and 11
- Wednesday 16th March - Reserve Day

Parents will be contacted regarding consent by the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) nearer to the above dates.
Roadworks

After a difficult start to the term, the introduction of an extra manned traffic signal at the entrance to our school car-park at the start and end of the school day made a huge difference last week, with traffic now flowing freely both into and out of the car-park.

Now that the issue of access into and out of the car-park has been resolved, I would ask that parents please use the car-park rather than dropping students off in alternative locations in the vicinity of the school. Only parents of students for whom collection at reception has been arranged should use the staff entry at the front of school and the car-park of the Homestead Nursery across the road from the school is private land which should not be used for drop-offs. Both areas became relatively dangerous last week as parents understandably tried to find alternative drop-off locations, but hopefully that is no longer necessary. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Best wishes,

Martin Hill
Headteacher