

29th November 2021

Dear Parents,

Re: Updated schools guidance for Omicron Covid variant

I am sure you will have been following the news over the weekend regarding the new Omicron Covid variant. Schools have been strongly advised to reintroduce masks in communal areas for staff and pupils in Year 7 and above because of concerns over this new variant.

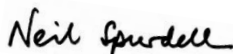
The new recommendation came in an email sent out to schools over the weekend, following a national government press conference about the new variant on Saturday. The DfE said the recommendation applies to all schools from today, so we are asking that students and staff adhere to these guidelines when we return to school on Tuesday.

The DfE email says: "Face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings by staff, visitors and pupils or students in Year 7 and above, unless they are exempt. They should also continue to wear face coverings on public and dedicated school transport, unless they are exempt."

Despite our numbers of cases being relatively low, as reported last week, we feel it is important we play our part in trying to keep everyone safe.

Thank you for your support with this. When we last had compulsory face mask-wearing on site, the students responded fantastically and I'm sure this period leading up to Christmas will be no different. As new information emerges, we will update you accordingly.

Yours faithfully,



Neil Spurdell
Headteacher