

Our Ref: INO/RWL/HT1624

25 June 2021

Dear Parent / Guardian

I have been involved in a number of Public Health conference calls and video meetings this week regarding the new Covid-19 Delta variant. It is clear from the data provided, that Covid-19 is increasing in all communities and that two of the main groups most at risk at the moment are 18-24 year olds and secondary school children. At present we have 4 confirmed cases in school. We also have some staff isolating from close contact referrals and have some staff and students waiting for test results.

We have asked students to wear a mask in communal areas and corridors and many are doing so. This is precautionary and Public Health England have not issued any other advice than this. If any updates are given by Public Health, we will notify you immediately. Our aim is to continue to operate a full school, but the absence of staff may dictate that we may have to change our plans in the coming days and weeks. Many schools, both locally and regionally, have closed year groups or entire schools and have gone back to a remote learning plan. Boldon has the capacity to do this if our number of cases rise quickly and we cannot fulfil our curriculum plans.

It is clear that cases are on the rise and we will have further disruption to our school. The same principles will apply, where we are asking parents to isolate their children who have been in close contact with a positive case. The period of isolation is ten days beginning two days before the students began to show symptoms of Covid-19. This will all be communicated to the affected families and I will ensure that all parents are aware of any positive cases that arise.

From a school point of view, we require all parents to continually test their children (two tests per week) and record the results on the gov.uk site. This gives an overall picture of how the new variant is spreading throughout the country. We have thousands of tests at school and students will be given a set of tests every two weeks for the remainder of the term. Alternatively, parents can come to our reception to collect a test kit whenever it is convenient.

We are doing everything we can to continue to provide the best possible education in these difficult times. If our situation changes, we will contact you as soon as we can to minimise any disruption to you and your family.

Yours sincerely



Mr I Noble
Head Teacher