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Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid-19 Update October 2021

The Local Authority Health Protection Team have asked us to pass on the following advice to all families of students attending schools:

'Students who are household contacts of a confirmed case are advised to stay at home for 5 days, limit social contact and get a PCR test before returning to school.'

This is in response to the local situation in Cheshire East, NHS Test and Trace are a national body and aren't always aware of the local context. This advice is reviewed weekly and if the advice changes, we will inform you. Whilst this advice is not an instruction, it is an action designed to ensure continuity for staff and students in Cheshire East schools.

To this effect if your household has a positive case of Covid-19 your son/daughter must:

- stay at home for at least five days and limit their social contact
- take a PCR test and receive the result before returning to school
- take LFD tests every day after returning to school (days 6-10)

If your child needs to isolate at home for a period they are expected to work remotely. Work will be set each day for students who are not within school via Microsoft Teams and attendance will be monitored.

With this updated guidance in mind I would like to take this opportunity to communicate our schools ongoing and updated response to Covid-19. To ensure the safety of our community we ask that students:

- follow a one-way system around school
- use hand sanitise on entry and exit of each classroom
- respect each others space and maintain a suitable distance
- take part in twice weekly lateral flow testing
- take part in the vaccination programme
- consider wearing facemasks within the building. (Face masks are not compulsory but we encourage everyone in our community to make the right decision for them and will support their choice).

Lateral Flow Testing (LFT)

All students are advised to take part in lateral flow device (LFD) home testing. We expect that our students complete these tests, twice weekly, on Sunday and Wednesday Evenings. Any results should be reported to the NHS www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result and all positive results reported to the school by phoning 01270 661223. Students will receive a further supply of lateral flow testing kits this week, please encourage your child to take part in this testing.

Covid-19 Vaccinations

You will have received an email from the school containing a letter about the vaccination programme being delivered by the Cheshire East School Age Immunisation Team. The vaccinations will be taking place in school on Friday 22nd October 2021. In order for your child to receive their vaccination you must complete the digital consent form via the link within the letter by **Friday 15th October 2021**. The letter can be viewed on the Covid-19 page on the website www.theoaksacademy.co.uk/covid-19.

Please note that this vaccination programme is for children aged between 12 and 15. To this effect any Year 7 or Year 11 student who falls outside of these ages on Friday 22nd October will not be eligible for vaccination within school, please visit www.nhs.uk to find out further information about eligibility for the vaccination.

Yours sincerely

Mr Kevin Graham
Deputy Headteacher

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