



Fairlands Middle School

Caring and Inspirational



2 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we enter the last few weeks of term, the week has begun with wintery weather and news of a further COVID variant. It is, therefore, sensible for me to provide some information regarding our school closure and COVID procedures.

In accordance with the new Government guidance, all pupils in the school should wear a face covering in communal areas unless exempt. Pupils using school transport should also wear a face covering for their journey.

Pupils in Year 7 and Year 8 should continue to test twice-weekly using LFD tests. Further test packs will be sent home with pupils in the week commencing 13 December, which will cover the Christmas and New Year period. Should you require any more before then please phone or email the school office, who will be happy to provide further sets.

We received notification on Friday that we will, once again, be asked to provide onsite assisted COVID tests for our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils on their return from the Christmas break. We are completing these during our INSET day on Tuesday **4 January 2022**. Further details will follow towards the end of term but we anticipate a timed session for each tutor group staggered throughout the day.

Should the school need to close at any stage, we will endeavour to notify families as soon as possible. This communication will be through Class Charts, ParentPay, Twitter and the school website, as well as local radio stations in the event of bad weather. Decisions about closing due to bad weather will be made in liaison with other Wessex Learning Trust schools. For closures due to COVID or bad weather our remote education policy will once again come into force. Remote education will be delivered via Microsoft Teams, with key information shared via Class Charts. Please ensure that you have the details of your child's username and password for both of these platforms at home. In the event of a school closure, your child's day will be exactly the same as if they were on the school site.

School is busy in the lead up to Christmas. You will be receiving correspondence regarding many of the Christmas activities, including our Christmas dinner, FPTA raffle and festive jumper day. Can I please politely remind parents/carers to also complete the permission link which was shared on Class Charts and Parentpay for the Christmas film evenings, which are being held on Tuesday **14 December** (Years 5/6) and Wednesday **15 December** (Years 7/8).

I would like to thank families for their support and input at our recent Tutor Evenings. You should receive your child's report this week and I hope that you find this helpful. Pupils always learn best and attend better when families and school are working closely together to consolidate learning.

Thank you, once again, for your continued support

Yours sincerely

Stefan McHale
Headteacher



Fairlands Middle School

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Headteacher: Stefan McHale
Deputy Headteachers: Helen Heffernan and Kate Persaud
Associate Leaders: Robert Cooling and Matthew Vincent SENDCo

Safeguarding Children is everyone's responsibility.

If you are worried about any child please make an appointment to see either Helen Heffernan, Designated Safeguarding Lead or Robert Cooling, Felicity Grant, Sally Virgin, Designated Safeguarding Deputies
Alternatively, you can phone NPSCC: 0808 800 5000 Somerset Direct: 0300 123 2224