



16 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

COVID Update

As we approach the end of term, I wanted to write to keep you updated on our plans to ensure that we keep all site users as safe as possible on our return from the festive period.

Since I last wrote to you, there have been various updates and changes to guidance relating to the ongoing pandemic. Although these changes have an effect on how we all lead our daily lives, at this time they are not impacting any further on our existing measures in school. These existing measures; namely the wearing of face coverings in communal areas and good hand hygiene remain in place. Pupils and staff will be asked to continue with these measures on our return in January. Year 7 and Year 8 pupils will continue to be asked to perform LFD tests twice weekly and we have issued further test packs to them to cover the holiday period. Year 7 and Year 8 pupils will be asked to attend an onsite assisted test on our INSET day of **Tuesday 4 January 2022**. The details are as follows:

Year 8B	9.30am	Year 7B	12.45pm
Year 8M	10.15am	Year 7M	1.15pm
Year 8N	11.00am	Year 7N	1.45pm
Year 8P	11.45am	Year 7P	2.15pm
Year 8Q	12.00pm	Year 7Q	2.45pm

Pupils should enter via the front entrance to the school. They will have their test in the school hall and then leave by the Masons Way entrance (back of hall). Please ensure that they stick to the dedicated times for testing. I would politely remind families of pupils who have had a positive test for COVID within 90 days of that date (from 7 October onwards) that they are not required to attend these tests – please use the home LFD tests instead.

We just been advised that that walk-in vaccination clinics for 12 -15 year olds, who have not yet received their first dose, are being held at the following locations and times also on **Tuesday 4 January**.

9.30am – 12.00pm	Frome Town Hall, Christchurch Street West, Frome, BA11 1EB	No parking onsite, pay & display at South Parade
9.30am – 12.00pm	Kings Fitness Centre, Station Road, Cheddar, BS27 3AH	
1.30 pm – 3.30pm	Burnham Community Centre, 5 The Hall, Berrow Road, Burnham-on-Sea, TA8 2ET	1 st floor – no lift access. Please advise checking in clerk if assistance is required
1.30pm – 3.30pm	Westlands Entertainment Venue Westbourne Close, Yeovil, BA20 2DD	

From Tuesday 14 December, a new national approach to close contacts has been introduced. All pupils will no longer be required to self-isolate if identified as a close contact, but should instead take an LFD test daily for 7 consecutive days if showing no symptoms. Should any symptoms develop, or a positive



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



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Caring and Inspirational



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result on any of these LFD tests occur, then a PCR test should be taken. This process will continue to be led by NHS Test and Trace, although school will support them in exceptional cases of outbreak. LFD tests will continue to be available to our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils in the New Year. Families of pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 are able to access LFD tests through local pharmacies. A flowchart is attached to this letter to explain further.

There are no indications at this time that anything will change on our return. However, I would politely remind all families that should we need to move to remote learning at any time, lessons and information will all be posted through Class Charts and Microsoft Teams. Please ensure that you are signed up to the Class Charts app so that you can support your child in the best possible way, as well as keep up to date with notifications and our latest news. Updates will also be posted through our website www.fairlandsmiddleschool.co.uk Twitter page @Fairlands482 and ParentPay.

Thank you all for your support in advance

Yours sincerely

Stefan McHale
Headteacher



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