



*together we aspire,
we discover,
we excel*

Lordswood Girls' School

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Headteacher: Mrs. K Cooney, BSC (Hons), MA

Friday 1st October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As the weather becomes colder, we expect COVID cases to rise in the local community. Whilst the number of cases in the school community remains low, we have seen a number of positive cases over the last few weeks.

As you will be aware the 'NHS test and trace' service are now responsible for identifying close contacts in school. However, if your child is aware that they have been in close contact to a confirmed case, you do not have to wait to be contacted by test and trace. Anyone can book a PCR test via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Under 18's **can** continue to attend school whilst they await their result, as long as they remain asymptomatic.

If your child experiences **ANY** COVID symptoms, they **must** remain at home until a negative **PCR** test result is obtained.

Public Health England has also requested that students continue to carry out Lateral Flow Tests twice per week. 1 in 3 COVID cases are asymptomatic and therefore this is an essential tool in preventing the spread in school. This week all students with consent for COVID testing have been issued with additional tests to use at home. If you require additional tests, these can be obtained in local pharmacies. Please note that you will now require a code to collect LFT. This can be found via the following link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

In school we continue to remain vigilant. We ask all students to sanitise their hands upon entry to the building and continue to ensure good ventilation by opening windows and doors in classrooms. As the weather becomes colder, students are welcome to wear a blue fleece over their usual school uniform to keep warm in lessons. We continue to encourage students to use outdoor space at break time and lunch time where possible and would encourage you to discuss the merits of staying with a consistent group of friends during social time. A number of students find it reassuring to wear masks in school and we continue to support them in doing so.

We would like to thank you for continuing to keep our school community as safe as possible.

Many thanks

Mrs K. A. Cooney
Headteacher