



*together we aspire,
we discover,
we excel*

Lordswood Girls' School

Lordswood Girls' School
Knightlow Road
Birmingham
B17 8QB

Tel: 0121 429 2838
Facsimile: 0121 429 4840
Email: lgs-enquiry@lordswoodtrust.co.uk

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

4th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year, I hope you all had a pleasant holiday. You may have seen on the news, that during the holiday there were some updates from the Department for Education (DfE). I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the impact of this for us in school.

With immediate effect face coverings are to be worn in classrooms as well as in communal areas. This applies to all students unless they are medically exempt. It is hoped that this advice will only be for short period. The DfE have indicated that this advice will be in place until Wednesday 26 January, at which point the guidance will be reviewed. We would ask you to ensure that your child attends school with their own face covering and a spare in case one becomes damaged.

There have been changes to the 10-day period of self-isolation. If a student tests positive for COVID then they may now undertake a lateral flow test on the morning of day 6 and 7 (the tests must be 24 hours apart), if both of these tests are negative **AND** they no longer have a temperature, they will be allowed to return to school immediately after the second negative test. If for any reason a student is unable to test then they should still complete the full 10 day isolation period. If your child is able to return before the end of the 10 day isolation period, it is essential that they are sent to school with a signed letter confirming that they have met the requirements to end their period of isolation, this letter should be handed in to student reception prior to attending any lessons.

Before the holiday we shared the updated procedure to follow if your child is identified as a 'close contact'. As a reminder, if your child is identified as a close contact to a positive case, they should take a lateral flow test each morning before coming to school. This should be undertaken for 7 days after the last point of contact. If at any point they receive a positive LFD result **OR** experience any COVID symptoms, they should remain at home and book a confirmatory PCR test.

Furthermore, as a reminder I would like to draw your attention to the plans for the return to school this week. As communicated before the Christmas break we are required to conduct on-site testing, this does impact on the normal timetable this week. Students should attend registration each morning and complete work in line with their usual timetable. Work can be accessed via Google Classroom. The details of this can be found at the link below and we would encourage you to refresh your memory on the relevant information for your child.

<http://lordswoodgirls.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Parent-letter-for-Covid-testing-Jan-22.pdf>

Even though students will be undertaking a lateral flow test on their first day in school, we would like to request that they still undertake their usual twice weekly COVID test before coming in to school as an additional precaution.

At this point in time, all exams scheduled for the January period will still go ahead as planned. If any student is unable to attend an exam due to testing positive for COVID then we would recommend that they retain proof of a positive PCR result. This may be used as mitigating circumstances if required.

I would like to assure you that despite a large number of staff absences, we will endeavour to remain fully open at all times. We do have contingency plans in place, but this might mean that your child, whilst not ideal, does experience a higher than usual number of lessons delivered by someone other than their usual teacher.

Many thanks for your continued support during these challenging times.

Mrs K. A. Cooney
Headteacher