



13th September 2021

Dear Parent, Carer or Guardian,

COVID-19 Update

I hope this letter finds you well and rested after the weekend. I wanted to write with an update around COVID-19, both in School and across the City and explain the subsequent adaptations of our control measures to ensure a continuity of education for our community.

Over the weekend, eight cases of COVID-19 have been reported to us in Year 11. There are also several cases across other Year groups with the significant majority of these reported to us before students came back to School over the course of the last week. This rise in cases is mirrored in other Schools across the City and I have been informed today that cases are higher than they were in the last few weeks of the last academic year, when national restrictions were being lifted.

I am pleased to report that the students who have contracted COVID-19 are well, experiencing colds and coughs as symptoms with a minority being asymptomatic. I am sure you will join me in wishing them well. They are, however, extremely frustrated that they are having to self-isolate, missing out on their face to face learning and the opportunities being provided as we get back to a level of normality.

Whilst we know that the level of serious illness and/or hospitalisation as a result of COVID-19 is low because of the success of the vaccination programme, COVID-19 continues to disrupt the education of individuals and it is important that we adjust our control measures to minimise and mitigate this risk.

As such, I have asked that from today all Year 11 students wear a face covering in lessons and in crowded areas of the School. I have asked the same of staff who teach Year 11. Students do not need to wear face coverings when outside at social times. I will review this change on a daily basis and hope to remove this in the next couple of days. The reasons for this change have been fully explained to the students and again, I am grateful for their support and yours as parents, guardians and carers as we work hard, together, to ensure every youngster has an uninterrupted education this academic year.

Please can I take this opportunity to remind you that if your young person is well and not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19 that they should be attending School as normal. Any young person displaying symptoms of COVID-19 should self-isolate and get tested via a PCR test.

Students should carry on testing once a week, on their delegated year group day, and I cannot stress enough the importance of regular asymptomatic testing. Please encourage your children

to either carry out the single saliva test once a week, carry out two LFD tests per week, or a combination of the two.

As always, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me - head@cantell.co.uk or headspa@cantell.co.uk

Warmest Regards,



Harry Kutty
Headteacher

