



Weekly Newsletter September 17th 2021

Hello and welcome to the latest newsletter, the third of the new academic year. I am pleased to be able to report that the school is settling into something approaching normality whilst remaining alert to the fact that covid is still at large in our community. You may have received letters this week informing you of positive cases in your child's class. Please follow the advice in these letters but – also – please do not be alarmed. Many of you, also, will be aware of media reports regarding covid vaccinations for 12-15 year olds. I would like to emphasise that schools have not been issued with information and/or guidance in respect of this so we will be unable to answer any queries you may have. As soon as we do receive definitive communications I will share what I know with you all via the usual channels.

Parents must not drive onto the Lower School site or the driveway off Manor Way (A470) in order to drop off or collect their children. This can cause a significant hazard. The only exceptions are those parents with permission required for access arrangements for their children. These parents will be issued with a pass and MUST display it in their windscreens.

Key Covid Messages

- If your child presents any of the main covid symptoms (new and persistent cough; high temperature; loss/change of sense of taste and/or smell) then they **MUST NOT** attend school. Please inform the school, arrange a PCR test and await results and TTP guidance.
- Close contacts who have been fully vaccinated or **are under 18** will not need to self-isolate but should get PCR tested on Day 2 and Day 8.
- Household contacts are **strongly advised** to self-isolate. This is particularly important for parents to consider and we are grateful to all who follow this strong advice.
- Guidance and direction will now come from TTP rather than the school.
- Please use Lateral Flow Tests twice a week. It is recommended that pupils test themselves on the morning of their first day back.

We have test kits in school which we will make available for distribution on the return to school. Tests can also be ordered through the community collect, direct or pharmacy collect routes before the start of term. Further details provided below with relevant links:

Test Sites and Community Collection Points

Lateral Flow test kits can be collected from local test sites, and some community collection points. Locations, opening times can be found here:

[Get rapid lateral flow COVID-19 tests if you do not have symptoms | GOV.WALES](#)

Home Delivery

Kits can also be ordered online for home delivery. Details of how to order for home delivery can be found here:

[Get rapid lateral flow COVID-19 tests if you do not have symptoms | GOV.WALES](#)

If you are uncertain of anything in respect of the above then please do not hesitate to contact the school for advice/guidance.

Please only attend the school site if you have a prior appointment.

Site Development

The building work for the new Science Block is now well under way.

General

- An optional uniform for Sixth Form students is now in stock in YC sports. The branded T-shirts are £7 and the branded sweatshirts are £11.
- Whitchurch High School KS3 Charity Run is to take place Thursday 23rd September for Velindre Cancer Centre. With COVID affecting many charities we have set up a justgiving page to sponsor a child for this event.

Please follow the link and donate if you can.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/whs-pe-2021>

- **SIMS Parent App:** please be patient while waiting for a response to any queries relating to the SIMS Parent App. Our team will get to you as soon as they can but they are busy trying to get all new students up and running at the moment.
- **AS/A Level Students:** In the event of a teacher having to work from home due to covid isolation students should access their lessons via Teams as they would have done during lockdown. Ideally these lessons should be accessed from home. This does not apply if the teacher is off sick.
- Darker mornings are upon us so students cycling to school should be aware of traffic around them (do not, for example, wear headphones), they should wear helmets and reflective clothing and have lights on their bikes.

Kind regards,



Mark Powell