

24 January 2022

PS/129/22

Dear Parents/Carers and students,

Notification of a spike in COVID cases

I am taking the unusual step of writing to you on a Monday because we have witnessed a large spike in the number of COVID infections since last week. The number of cases across the students has risen from 38 (on 14th January) to 68 last Friday and then 151 as of today. The cases are spread across all year groups. We have also seen a rise in the number of COVID infections across the staff.

Staff absence due to COVID - Students working remotely for one day

As of today we have 13 teachers absent, along with 7 support staff. Based on these absence levels we do not have the capacity to safely staff every classroom throughout the school day. We have therefore taken the decision to direct one year group each day to work remotely this week, allowing us to redirect some of their teachers to cover for absent colleagues. The plan for this week is therefore:

Tuesday 25th January - **Year 10** will work remotely from home
Wednesday 26th January - **Year 8** will work remotely from home
Thursday 27th January - **Year 9** will work remotely from home
Friday 28th January - **Year 11** will work remotely from home

Work for all students will be set on Google Classroom by their normal class teachers. Some teachers may also run 'live' lessons on Google Meet (they will invite their students to these sessions) and students should follow their normal school timetable when working remotely. All work produced and handed in via Google Classroom will be marked by the usual teacher and feedback will be provided.

COVID testing - please continue regular testing

The main symptoms of COVID are still considered to be a high temperature, new and continuous cough and loss (or change to) the senses of taste and smell. However the Omicron variant may also give sufferers the following symptoms: scratchy throat, sneezing, fatigue, loss of appetite and/or lower back pain. As many of these symptoms are also associated with winter colds (and other viral conditions) it is vital that we all continue to do our **twice weekly Lateral Flow tests** in order to reduce the risk of more widespread transmission. **Please test your children regularly to protect the community.**

Mask wearing in school

In view of the spike in COVID cases in the school community we have made the decision to **continue** to direct students to wear face masks when they are in indoor communal spaces for the next two weeks. Please ensure that your child has a suitable face covering (unless exempt) each day. This decision will be reviewed on **Friday 4th February.**

Year 11 Mocks starting on Monday 31st January

We are still intending running the second series of Year 11 mock exams starting on Monday 31st January and running through to Friday 11th. Students will come to school every day as normal during this period (**there is no 'study leave'**) but they will have chances to revise in their lessons when not completing mock exams.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Simon Liley,
Headteacher



Key contacts for parents/carers:

Year group	Year Team Leader and Student Support Officer	Email addresses	Phone numbers
Year 7	Miss Pegden (YTL) Mrs Cooper (SSO - Mon-Wed) Mrs Fullman (SSO - Thur/Fri)	npegden@theangmeringschool.co.uk lcooper@theangmeringschool.co.uk sfullman@theangmeringschool.co.uk	(01903) 778317 (01903) 778357 (01903) 778389
Year 8	Mrs Hook (YTL) Mrs Cooper (SSO - Mon-Wed) Mrs Fullman (SSO - Thur/Fri)	lhook@theangmeringschool.co.uk lcooper@theangmeringschool.co.uk sfullman@theangmeringschool.co.uk	(01903) 778338 (01903) 778357 (01903) 778389
Year 9	Mr Smith (YTL) Mrs Cooper (SSO - Mon-Wed) Mrs Fullman (SSO - Thur/Fri)	ssmith@theangmeringschool.co.uk lcooper@theangmeringschool.co.uk sfullman@theangmeringschool.co.uk	(01903) 778382 (01903) 778357 (01903) 778389
Year 10	Mr Middleton (YTL) Mrs Burn (SSO)	mmiddleton@theangmeringschool.co.uk aburn@theangmeringschool.co.uk	(01903) 778339 (01903) 778396
Year 11	Mrs Fillery (YTL) Mrs Burn (SSO)	jfillery@theangmeringschool.co.uk aburn@theangmeringschool.co.uk	(01903) 778311 (01903) 778396
Sixth Form	Mr Kerrison (Leader of VI Form) Miss Hughes (VI Form Manager)	akerrison@theangmeringschool.co.uk ehughes@theangmeringschool.co.uk	(01903) 778356 (01903) 778399