



6<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Coronavirus Update 28**

For the second week in succession I am able to bring you some good news. We have had no new positive notifications since my last letter; it is now 10 days since we last had a confirmed case among our students or staff. Perhaps we have the recent restrictions to thank for this.

I will take this opportunity of looking ahead to the final week of term. You already know of my anxiety that it could provoke a new cluster of positive tests and so lead to notices to self-isolate over Christmas. It is with this in mind that I have asked staff to continue with their normal teaching right through to the final day of term. When the risks are so high, there is no place for the more relaxed activities that traditionally precede the Christmas break.

It has been made clear to headteachers across the county that our duty to follow up new cases runs right through to Christmas. I shall be asking you to tell me of any positive test results where the student's first symptoms were noticed up to and including Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> December. As a test the following day may not yield a result until the 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup>, you will see that I may be required, however reluctantly, to send out new notices to self-isolate as late as Christmas Eve.

This gives us all the more reason to be careful over the next fortnight. We all hope for the reality of better times in 2021.

Meanwhile, stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Natalie Waters