

6<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear parent/carer,

I hope this letter reaches you and your families in strong health - body, mind and spirit.

As we are approaching the end of the summer term and this academic year, we find ourselves still battling the effects of the pandemic. As you will be aware from the news, the COVID19 Delta variant has caused a rapid rise in the transmission of the virus in certain parts of the nation over the last three-four weeks. Unfortunately, we have seen a rise in positive cases in the last few weeks, which is partly explained by the change in rules regarding those who have been identified as a close contact having to take a PCR test. Nonetheless, we must continue to exercise caution and respond accordingly to the data we have.

It is important to stress that our COVID19 safety measures have been ratified by numerous professional organisations throughout the year, including recently from health representatives at the Local Authority and Public Health. I am confident that we are doing all that any school can do during such times. However, I wanted to raise awareness of the key things that will reduce the risk of transmission and help keep our community as safe as possible. Therefore, I am asking for your support in this final phase of the academic year by collectively ensuring we do the following consistently.

- **All students to take their lateral flow tests twice weekly.** This is an important measure that can prevent the virus being transmitted.
- **Encourage your child to wear a face covering when they cannot maintain a safe distance.** We still have a number of students and staff opting to wear face coverings, especially in classrooms. This is something we support, however, cannot mandate this due to the government legislation.
- **Continue to remind and reinforce the importance of hand hygiene.** Where possible, ensure your child has their own pocket size hand sanitiser, especially when in public spaces like buses or shops. The academy will continue to provide hand sanitiser and our routines have not changed here.
- **Ensure that if your child has any of the COVID19 symptoms they remain at home.**

Finally, despite the huge challenges we faced this year, we have worked together as a community and ensured that we have continued to progress forward and accomplish things that many schools have been unable to achieve. I am incredibly proud and grateful for the support our families have given this academic year.

Yours sincerely



Morgan Haines  
Principal