

Message from Mr Maltby

26th November 2021



Good afternoon,

Further to my communications last week regarding the Covid-19 Public Health Suffolk advice, we have since been informed that this guidance will continue to remain in place due to the rising numbers of cases in the area.

We, therefore, remain at Level 1 for the majority of the school apart from students in 7 Deben, 7 Orwell and 7 Stour who we were advised should be following recommendations under Level 2 ie to wear a face covering in lessons as well as corridors (unless exempt). This advice remains in place for these students for the week commencing 29th November.

Since the beginning of this week, we have been informed of positive cases in each year group and have written separately to families of students in 7 Gipping, 8 Alton and 8 Orwell and those students who use the 615 bus service. These students have been advised to complete daily lateral flow tests and/or obtain a PCR test.

In years 9, 10 and 11, there are currently no identifiable groups of students who may have mixed closely with someone who has tested positive. However, we ask that all students continue to complete a lateral flow test twice a week and you remain vigilant for any symptoms that your child may develop.

We are closely monitoring confirmed cases and will continue to provide specific advice to students and families in accordance with guidance from Suffolk Public Health.

In school, the enhanced cleaning routines remain in place and we are encouraging students to sanitise their hands when entering and leaving lessons and before eating.

To help keep the Holbrook Academy community safe, I am now asking for your support with the following:-

- if your child is asked by the Academy to complete daily lateral flow testing at home, they do this and upload all the results;
- if your child is asked by the Academy to obtain a PCR test, that you arrange this at the earliest opportunity. Students can continue to attend school but should complete a daily lateral flow test while they are waiting for their PCR result. (Students who have already tested positive via PCR test in the past 90 days are exempt.);
- if your child mentions to you that a close friend has tested positive outside of school, then you encourage your child to complete daily lateral flow testing at home and then arrange for a PCR test on day 5 following the close contact.

At this time of the year there are a lot of coughs and colds about and the majority of these will be nothing more than that. However, if you are concerned that your child has symptoms of Covid-19, then please do obtain a PCR test as soon as possible - <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>

Thank you for your continuing support.

Tom Maltby
Headteacher