



2 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Covid-19, Transition into Year 7 this summer

I hope my weekly letter finds you well. As we approach the end of the week we have joined the many secondary schools around the country with further positive cases of Covid-19 leading to us sending home some youngsters in Year 9 and 10. More about that below:

Covid-19

This week has reminded us that Covid-19 hasn't gone away and, more importantly, that the delta variant is in Lincolnshire and is the dominant strain nationally. The symptoms for delta may well be different than those previously advertised by the NHS. While the fever may still be present, we are seeing fewer reports of a continuous cough, a high temperature, a loss of, or change in, sense of taste or smell. Rather, we are experiencing more examples of **headaches, sore throats, runny noses, sickness, diarrhoea and fever**. I mention this by way of anecdote rather than a change in formal advice. Please be mindful of this when deciding if your child requires a test.

Lateral flow tests remain important for all students who remain **asymptomatic only**. Please continue with your twice weekly testing regime at home as this has proved helpful in identifying one case this week. You should receive your next allocation of tests on the same day as this letter. If your child is isolating, please feel free to pop into reception to be given yours.

I would value it if parents would contact us with any concerns rather than contacting the newspapers to tell them we are 'riddled with covid.' This is neither helpful nor accurate and we continue, as ever, to battle on in the hope of keeping everyone safe prior to the end of term in just under three weeks. The simple fact is that infections are rising again, particularly in schools and we are far from an isolated case this week despite our best efforts.

Frankly, we are back in the fight. The media remain unhelpful with their 'Freedom Day' headlines and it only stands to relax some folks unnecessarily.

In Lincoln, there are 124 cases per 100,000. The national average is 122. This is a rise. This picture is replicated in North Kesteven too and I expect to see it continue.

If any parents have any other concerns related to Covid-19 in school, please contact us at the Academy using the email address COVID@srpa.co.uk.

Transition into Year 7 this summer

This week, we have seen a small number of positive cases among students in Year 9 and 10 which has led to the isolation of parts of those year group bubbles. With this in mind, despite our well planned events for next week, I do not feel able to host Year 6 children at this time. I think it would be unwise to introduce new bubbles into the Academy and, in addition, if we are isolating our own pupils, it is not fair to expect primary school youngsters to attend, even in their bubbles.

As a result of this, we will reschedule our transition day for our third INSET day in September which is Friday 3 September.

Of course, we will deliver all promised transition boxes to our feeder schools as soon as possible in order that our fine new Year 7s will be well prepared for their move to join us. We will also ensure that the link to our dedicated transition website is signposted to all children in their transition box so that they can, in some small part, familiarise themselves ready for an exciting September start.

If you have any questions about this please do not hesitate to contact us via our dedicated email address transition@srpa.co.uk which will go to Mr Adlington and his team.

It has been a long year and we continue, as a full staff body, to continue to push hard and lift everyone else as we approach the end of term. It is not easy working in schools, especially at the moment, as we continue to endure the pandemic and have to respond in crisis management mode to whatever comes our way. My staff have given everything so far this year and will continue to until the holidays. They expect no sympathy at all, but it is the truth. Vince Lombardi once said "I firmly believe that any man's finest hour, the greatest fulfilment of all that he holds dear, is that moment when he has worked his heart out in a good cause and lies exhausted on the field of battle – victorious."

You and your children are our good cause. We are not yet victorious but we hope to be soon. No one feels it more keenly than I when we have to follow the covid guidance and send children home but we will dig in and look to make it to the end of term still smiling.

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Hardy
Head Teacher



Head Teacher: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250