



7 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Covid-19 including testing and vaccinations, Year 11 mock results afternoon and parents' evening, Health & Wellbeing bulletin – term 3

A very Happy New Year to you all from all of us at SRPA as we begin the spring term in earnest. This week has been positive and productive in many regards, not least in relation to students returning and with new recommendations in place in relation to Covid-19. More about that below:

Covid-19 including testing and vaccinations

Covid testing in school has been positive this week. Your child should have received their latest allocation of home tests today too. We continue to encourage twice weekly testing at home on Wednesdays and Sundays using home LFT kits. This regular routine is incredibly supportive of us as an academy and I ask you to continue to check that your child is testing at least twice a week as expected unless they are a close yet asymptomatic contact of a positive case where daily tests are needed (as published in the Covid update earlier this week). It has become clear that some students have not been testing over the holidays and their test this week was the first for some time. I implore you to ensure that your child continues to test at home. This is one of the core strategies to ensure that we can keep infections lower and schools open, which we all want.

We have now had another visit from SAIS confirmed for first and second COVID vaccinations. These will take place on 3 Feb 2022. Please note this is not a date for booster vaccinations.

It was far from ideal to receive new guidance from the DfE on Sunday 2 January that had already been leaked, yet again, to the press. This always puts Heads on the back foot because the devil is always in the detail and gave us limited time to respond before the beginning of term. I have mixed feelings about mask wearing in school but, if it is for the short term, as long as they are worn properly then it seems a small price to pay. For the record, staff are not fond of wearing them either and I think we all long for a return to a time when we can dispense with them. I would ask for parental support in relation to masks though please. If your child is wearing a mask, rolling it under the chin is counter-productive and risks smearing germs over their faces. Prior to the beginning of the full working week next Monday, I would be really grateful if you would consider discussing this issue with your youngster. As I said to my own son this week, it's either all in or all out.

Much has been made of the current national picture in relation to staffing shortages in schools due to Covid. Largely, we remain quite unscathed at this time and seem to be managing our

timetable at the time of writing. Should this change I will resort to implementing our outbreak management plan but hope that we will not have to.

Year 11 mock results afternoon and parents' evening

Year 11 mock results afternoon took place yesterday afternoon and was a really productive opportunity for students facing GCSE examinations to see how well they had performed and to receive support regarding next steps. In addition, instructions for booking appointments for next week's parents' evening have now been published. If you have any questions with regard to either of these events, please contact Miss Empson, our KS4 Director of Achievement via lempson@srpa.co.uk.

We are delighted to send out conditional offers for sixth form places for 2022-23 to our wonderful hardworking Year 11 cohort. They have impressed in their attitudes, efforts and particularly in their interviews, resulting in them being successful in receiving their offers this week. A second round of sixth form applications will open later this term to students who now feel in a position to apply.

Health & Wellbeing bulletin – term 3

This is attached with this letter and includes a raft of new clubs, suggestions around food and nutrition and all intervention and support opportunities for all years, but especially for our examination years. The club information can also be accessed via our website using this link. <https://srpa.co.uk/extra-curricular-clubs-activities/> We hope that you find it useful.

The weather has turned noticeably cooler since our unseasonably warm turn of the year. As we return to school with frosts and a hint of snow around the corner, I am reminded of the words of American teacher, poet and author Lucy Larcom who said "If the world seems cold to you, kindle fires to warm it."

Let's hope for a good half term and plenty of good news.

Keep 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
t 01522 882020
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250