



Clacton County High School

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Higher Expectations, Raising Aspirations, Transforming Lives

Our reference: CTALET13/LH

10th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are almost at the end of the first full term of the academic year 2021/22. We have made a great start and are looking forward to the spring term. Year 11 students have worked really hard over the past week and I am delighted at the mature approach they have taken towards their mock examinations; these continue right up until Wednesday, 15th December. Well done too, to those Year 10's who have also been involved in some exams.

The recent change to the guidance issued by the government has had implications for us in school too. Students and staff should now wear face coverings when in the communal areas inside of school, particularly when moving around corridors. So far, we have taken the stance of reminding students and issuing face masks to those not in possession of their own, but from Monday, 13th December, unless advised differently, it is really important that all students take responsibility (unless exempt) for wearing a face covering. From Monday, students must bring two face coverings into school, one to wear and one spare. The school will still be able to issue face masks but students will be deducted 5 PROUD points from their Rewards account plus 30p to cover the cost of a replacement. It is so important that we do everything we can to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus in school and within our community, to keep each other safe and well and ensure we all have a Covid free Christmas.

A reminder also of the importance of the twice weekly testing on Wednesdays and Sundays each week. This has been extremely successful especially in identifying asymptomatic cases and we will continue with this when we return in the new year. With this in mind, the Department for Education has decided that all students must have a supervised lateral flow test prior to their return to normal timetabled lessons. For us, this means that Wednesday, 5th January is now a designated test day. Students will attend school at allocated form group times for a supervised lateral flow test; for your child's form group time, please refer to [this schedule](#). On arrival, students will be issued with a 7-test pack and will use one of these for the supervised test, they will then take the remainder of the test pack home with them. Following the test, they must leave the school site immediately, any positive test results will be notified directly and students must follow the normal requirements i.e. remain at home and a PCR test organised. Please do not send your child into school for a test if they have any COVID-19 symptoms or feel unwell.

Despite the reinstatement of some restrictions, this is still the season of joy and cheer and so on a much lighter note, we are really looking forward to the last week of term. The Christmas trees are up around school, many offices and classrooms decorated, as usual the Holly Court Appeal has been really successful and tote bags full of gifts will soon be delivered to grateful residents. There will be a daily Christmas concert from Monday to Thursday in Clouds, organised by the Year 9 Broader Curriculum students for the students and finally our annual Christmas Jumper Day on the last day; Friday. All monies received from the jumper day will go to the Great Ormond Street Children's Charity, specially chosen by our students, so much to look forward to. A reminder that school closes at 11.55am on Friday, 17th December.

As ever, we are grateful for the parental support that we receive whether this be with testing, mask wearing or your amazing generosity for the charitable causes; many thanks.

Kind regards

C Taylor

Chris Taylor
Head of School