



# Clacton County High School

Walton Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex. CO15 6DZ  
Tel: 01255 424266 e-mail: admin@cchs.school

Higher Expectations, Raising Aspirations, Transforming Lives

Our Reference: CTALET18/LH

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Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that everyone has had a good start to the spring term. As ever, the school terms fly by so fast and as each season flows into the next, the curriculum and scheduled annual events seem to come around again very quickly.

The start of 2022 has been extremely busy, firstly with the whole school LFD testing and there have also been some external exams for our Sigma Sixth students. With some normality returning to this academic year, we are delighted to announce the return of the school musical. Casting took place this week with 85 students arriving to audition for our adaptation of Legally Blonde. There is some real talent within our student community and we are excited to be able to showcase their talents.

With things moving at pace in school, this also applies to the guidance being issued in regards to COVID-19 and, in particular, around the self-isolation periods for those who test positive. In the last couple of days, we have received further guidance of changes commencing from Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> January and these are detailed below:

*“People who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.*

*The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).*

*If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.*

*Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation. Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.*

To help upper school parents with future plans, I must advise that the Year 11 National Exam Contingency date has been announced; 29<sup>th</sup> June. This date fluctuates year on year, but a day is always set aside just in case there is a national emergency or a local issue which could result in the cancellation of any scheduled nationwide examinations. It is vital that all students remain available up until and including 29<sup>th</sup> June. Please understand that this date is not a “catch up” for individual students; students cannot miss any external exams.

As always it is worth giving a further reminder of the weekly LFD testing on Sundays and Wednesdays. Although it seems that nationally the number of COVID Omicron cases appears to be declining, currently the virus still remains prevalent in all of our communities. For school children, many of them are asymptomatic, i.e. that is they do not have any obvious symptoms, and this is where the twice weekly testing can really help the most to reduce transmission. In addition, at least until the government advise otherwise, please encourage your child to wear their face mask (one to wear and one spare!), we sincerely hope this will be a very temporary arrangement.

Although we must still be cautious at this moment, we are very excited about the spring and summer terms ahead. As well as the musical, we are hoping to host many more events including sports days and welcoming our next cohort of students as they transition from primary to secondary; we are very positive and extremely optimistic.

Have a good weekend, keep safe and well.

Kind regards  
Chris Taylor  
Head of School