



To Aspire, Endeavour and Thrive Together

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sure that you are all aware that we have, as a school community, begun to be adversely affected by a significant increase in the number of Covid positive cases in school. We now have both staff and a high number of students self-isolating.

We have robust systems in school and a risk assessment is securely in place to minimise transmission. However, it is clear that the lifting of restrictions has led to a rise in the infection rate locally and that, in school, we need to take action to keep the community safe.

Therefore, from Monday 12th July, we will ask staff and students to wear face coverings in their classrooms, when transitioning between lessons and in the Heart (when not eating/drinking). Although I understand that this is short notice, please can you do your best to make sure that your child brings a face covering with them on Monday. This must be plain black or blue.

We have been providing LFD test kits for students since March and I would like to thank students and parents for continuing to test and provide us with the results. Although I know many find this difficult, and frustrating if their child is identified as a close contact, this is a vital part of our community effort to reduce transmission of Covid and therefore to stop it spreading into homes and risking vulnerable family members.

Please make sure that your child tests twice a week on a Monday and Thursday morning.

If the test is positive, email covidpositivetest@glossopdale.school. **It is really important that parents use this email address rather than leaving an answerphone message as this means that we can pick this up when the school is closed and therefore notify parents of the need to self-isolate as soon as possible.**

If your child is asked to self-isolate, it is absolutely essential that they do. As a close contact, they are highly likely to be carrying the virus themselves and, if they come into contact with others, they will inevitably be passing it on. Even though restrictions are being lifted, can we please ask for the support of parents and students in using those freedoms with due care and consideration for all around them.

We will welcome Y10 students back into school on Monday. It is essential that each student takes a test on Sunday evening or Monday morning before they arrive to school. Work experience is an extremely valuable activity for all of them; we also know that all Y10 students have been mixing within and beyond our community and therefore the potential for infection transmission is high. We value your respect and responsibility in making sure that Covid is not brought back into school by testing and then informing us of any positive cases.

We want all our students to enjoy the last few weeks of term and the above steps are necessary to try and ensure this happens. We know it has not been easy for parents and students, particularly when we have had to send bubbles home and we have only been able to communicate in the morning as students set off for school. Thank you for taking the time to read this essential guidance and for supporting the school's efforts by following the recommendations above.

Yours sincerely

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Headteacher

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