

Alderbrook School

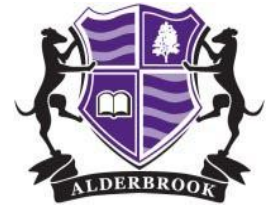
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Dear Parents and Carers

7 January 2022

It has been great to welcome our students back to school this week and I hope you all had a relaxing Christmas break. Year 11s have begun their first week of formal assessments which continue over the next couple of weeks and we thank you for supporting and encouraging revision, rest and focus during this important time for them.

Thank you for your support with the on-site lateral flow testing programme on Tuesday which ran smoothly. Please continue to report any student positive Covid cases to covidpositive@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk.

Can I please remind you of the current key messages around Lateral flow testing, PCR testing and self-isolation.

You should self-isolate if:

- You develop any Covid-symptoms (no matter your vaccination status). You should book a PCR test for that day, through one of the local testing centres: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. If you test negative, you do not need to self isolate.
- You test positive on a lateral flow test (no matter your vaccination status). You no longer need a confirmatory PCR test.
- You are not fully vaccinated (2 doses) and someone you live with has tested positive for Covid or you have been told to self-isolate by the NHS due to close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid.

Those under 18 years and 6 months and those who are fully vaccinated (or unable to get vaccinated for medical reasons) do not need to self-isolate due to close contact. You are only a close contact if you live in the same household as someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or have been notified by NHS Test and Trace. You are strongly advised to do lateral flow tests each day for 7 days if someone you live with, or have been in close contact with, has tested positive – no matter what your vaccination status is.

Time for self-isolation:

- Self-isolation time for those with a positive PCR/LFD test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days providing you can meet the conditions detailed below.
- It is now possible to end self-isolation after 7 days following two negative LFD tests taken 24 hours apart on day 6 & 7 of isolation. The first LFD test should not be taken before the sixth day.
- Your isolation period includes the day your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken, LFD or PCR, if you do not have symptoms), and the next 10 full days.

- If your child is self-isolating and feels well enough to access remote learning, it is our aim to provide live lessons on Teams following the normal school timetable. However, please be aware that for some subjects (particularly practical based subjects) and where we have higher levels of staff absence, for some lessons this will not be viable. In such cases, work will be uploaded to Teams for pupils to complete.

Postponement of Yr 9 and 10 progress update evening

On Tuesday 11 January we were scheduled to hold a progress update evening for Years 9 and 10; this is a chance for parents to book appointments with teachers if they have a concern over their child's progress in a particular subject. We have introduced these meetings to give parents an extra opportunity, on top of Parent Consultation Evenings, to meet with teachers in a timely fashion. However, given the current situation we are going to postpone this evening. It will be rescheduled for later in the school year; thank you for your understanding.

Year 7 Parents and Students consultation – Wednesday 26 January 2022

Year 7 parents and carers will be receiving a letter next week inviting you to book consultations with staff through the School Interviews on-line booking system. Full details on how to access this are included in the letter but any queries please direct to 201office@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk

COVID-19 vaccination programme for 12 to 15 year olds

Young people aged 12 to 15 in England are now being offered a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at a minimum of 12 weeks from the first dose, following advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). Parents can book vaccinations for their child, if aged 12 or over, through the [NHS booking system](#). Vaccination for this group will also continue to be carried out by the school age immunisation service (SAIS). We will notify parents/carers when we have a date for the second round of vaccinations in school.

It continues to be a challenging time for the school community. The students have been fantastic at wearing masks in all internal areas and I'd like to thank you for your support in this. Unfortunately, some staff absence is inevitable at this time but we continue to do all we can to ensure disruption to student learning is minimised.

Best wishes,



Tom Beveridge
Headteacher