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29 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. Unfortunately, I have moved my communications this week given the emerging events from the weekend. As many of you would have seen, the Prime Minister confirmed temporary measures to respond to the emergence of UK cases of the Omicron variant. This has ramifications for educational settings and in line with our risk assessments, we have made the following changes as advised. Please view the new measures [here](#).

The Department for Education has revised its guidance on the use of face coverings in educational settings. Face coverings should be worn here at North Leamington School in all communal areas from Tuesday 30 November 2021 by staff, visitors and students unless they are exempt. Students should continue to wear face coverings on public transport and dedicated school transport. Instructions will be given to students today during tutor time. I ask that you support your child by ensuring they have a face covering for each day in school and a spare stored safely in their bag.

Our Winter Concert scheduled tomorrow will now be postponed. I know this will be a huge disappointment to all students, staff and parents/carers involved, the school will reimburse all tickets purchased through Parent Pay. We have taken this step to minimise the risks to all and try to ensure the school remains fully open given the changes to self-isolation in regards to the Omicron variant.

We were also notified of the requirement to put in place arrangements for Covid-19 on site testing for all students on their return from the Christmas holidays. I wanted to give a headline schedule as quick as possible given the implications on childcare for many of you. I will write again before the break with full details of your child's designated slot and then their staggered start return date in January. Remote learning will be in place for all students from Wednesday 5 January, regardless of start date, in line with our published school calendar.

	Date of On Site Lateral Flow Test	Return to School
7	Wednesday 5 January 2022 8:45am – 11:15am	Thursday 6 January 2022
8	Thursday 6 January 2022 8:45am – 11:15am	Friday 7 January 2022
9	Thursday 6 January 2022 12:00pm – 2:45pm	Friday 7 January 2022

10	Friday 7 January 2022 8:45am – 11:15am	Monday 10 January 2022
11	Wednesday 5 January 2022 12:00pm – 2:45pm	Thursday 6 January 2022
12	Friday 7 January 2022 12:00pm – 2:45pm	Monday 10 January 2022
13	Friday 7 January 2022 12:00pm – 2:45pm	Monday 10 January 2022

Could I please ask any volunteers to complete the following link <https://forms.office.com/r/1Dr61g01Ea> should you have any availability to support the testing between 5-7 January 2022. Support in the past has been fantastic and I hope again that we can work together as a community to get our young people back to school as swiftly as possible.

The Government continues to advocate that all eligible adults and pupils aged 12 should take up the offer of the vaccine, including boosters. To book a vaccine, please visit [Book or manage a coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk).

Given the change of weather over the weekend, please do familiarise yourself with our Severe Weather School Closure policy located in our policies section on the school website <https://www.northleamington.co.uk/aboutus/policies>.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mike Lowdell
Head Teacher