



Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

## RE: Weekly Update

We have now completed our first full week of the term and so far, despite higher than average staff absences for this time of year, we have managed to avoid significant disruption.

On Thursday it was announced that from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January, those who have tested positive will be able to take a lateral flow test on day 5 and day 6 to cease self-isolation early. The same rules apply, in that the tests must both be negative and taken at least 24 hours apart. We have had guidance from WBC therefore, that staff and pupils may return to school on day 6 if their LFT test is taken in the morning prior to school and so long as they are not presenting with a fever. We will update you further upon receiving any additional guidance on this.

## Covid-19 Summary

<b>New cases</b>	Less than 10 new cases this week (down from the week before).
<b>Communication</b>	Use <a href="mailto:covid@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">covid@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a> for all Covid-19 related queries and to report new positive cases to us.
<b>Symptoms</b>	Do not send your child to school and seek a PCR test if they have any of the following symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Feverish</li> <li>▪ A new, continuous cough</li> <li>▪ A loss or change to sense of smell or taste</li> <li>▪ Headache</li> <li>▪ Upset stomach</li> <li>▪ Sore throat</li> <li>▪ Unusually tired</li> </ul>
<b>Home Testing</b>	Twice per week using LFD. Please report all results to the <a href="https://www.nhs.uk">NHS</a> . You are now advised to continue testing even if you have had Covid within the last 90 days. Those who test positive via LFD are not require to take a confirmatory PCR test and should self-isolate immediately.
<b>Guidelines for Positive Cases in Your Household</b>	Any child who has a household member test positive or has been identified as a close contact of a positive case should <b>take a daily lateral flow test for 7 days</b> . Whilst engaging in daily LFD testing, anyone who tests negative can continue to attend school.
<b>Changes to Isolation Period for Positive Cases</b>	Students can now leave self-isolation on day 6 if they have a negative LFT result on day 5 and day 6. The tests must be 24 hours apart and they must not have a high temperature. If either test is positive, students must continue to isolate until they get 2 negative LFT results taken 24 hours apart or they have completed 10 full days of isolation.
<b>Isolation Work</b>	Set via Microsoft Teams.
<b>Mask Wearing</b>	Now highly recommended in all communal areas and classrooms. <b>Please send you child to school with a suitable face mask.</b>



## Year 9 Options

This term students in Year 9 will select their option choices for Year 10. All students will study English (language and literature), Maths and Science (and will continue to have PE lessons). They will choose 4 additional subjects to study from a wide range of options. More information will be shared with students and parents over the coming weeks. There will be an information evening on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, which will most likely be online.

## Year 11 Study Skills Workshop

On Wednesday, students in Year 11 will begin the day with a follow-up study skills session provided by Elevate Education: Ace Your Exams. The session will help further equip students for the assessments that they face over the next 2 terms by showing them exam preparation strategies, including stress management, planning, time allocation and how to tailor a succinct and focused answer.

## Year 12 Mid-Year Exams

In two weeks Year 12 will begin their exam week. These assessments are vital and so please encourage your child to use their time wisely to prepare for them. If you have any queries please contact Mr Constable ([dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)) or Mr Whitehouse ([pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)).

## Uniform Expectations

Please continue to support our uniform expectations by ensuring that your child comes to school with a blazer (Years 7-10), optional school jumper (in addition to the blazer), trousers or loose fitting skirt of reasonable length and black socks or tights and all black footwear. During the cold weather students can, of course, wear a coat but this should not be in place of the blazer. Hoodies or non-school jumpers are not permitted.

## Remote Learning Expectations

If students are working from home remotely, class work will be assigned through TEAMS. Your child should contact their class teacher by email directly to request work if they believe it has not been uploaded. Please check the school website for additional guidance with how to access remote learning if you or your child is unsure how to access TEAMS: <https://www.emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk/site/data/files/documents/C11579BC079EEEAC3625BDAC43716C2D.pdf?pid=11>

I hope that any resolutions you made at New Year are still on track!

Best wishes,

**Nick McSweeney**

Headteacher

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