



News Bulletin

Thursday 6th January 2022

Striving
Higher

Dear Pupils and Parents,

Happy New Year to you.

It has already been another unusual start to the year and this short bulletin focuses on updates on all things COVID related.

Best wishes for 2022,

John Anderson, Rector

Changes to isolation rules

The changes to self-isolation procedures have been widely reported in the press, but we would ask that you refer to this [FAQ outline](#) which we received from Schools Leaders Scotland. This gives comprehensive but easy to follow guidance.

We will continue to email 'Warn and Inform' letters home. These are sent to parents / carers of young people in the same class (primary) or year group (secondary) of new positives cases. Please note that we are not sending letters about positive cases who have not yet attended school this term.

Lateral Flow testing and vaccination

Asymptomatic secondary testing. We will be handing out the new Flowflex (nasal-only) test kits to all secondary pupils during tutor time at the end of this week. These tests are easier to use but are in relatively short supply. For this reason, we are asking that anyone who already has one of the new kits at home does not take one from school. We have ordered more Flowflex kits and have plenty of the older style (throat and nose) kits.

Primary testing. Primary parents / carers are reminded that as part of the universal testing offer, LFD kits are available for use if primary school-aged children are identified as **high-risk** close contacts. Parents should contact the school office if a kit is required.

Vaccination. Pupils aged 12-15 are now being offered second doses of the vaccine from this week. A letter will be sent to all eligible pupils from NHS Scotland.

Reporting pupil absences

To help us with absences, we ask that all parents follow our attendance guidance when contacting the school: [Attendance and Absence – Jordanhill School](#)

We appreciate that many families are also facing a range of challenges but simple things like including your young person's full name, year group and class (primary) or house (secondary) makes our attendance monitoring processes quicker and more accurate.

For Covid absences, government guidelines ask that you report whether your young person is a positive case or a contact. Please also provide us with the return date from isolation (see new guidance above).

School work for pupils who are isolating

To speed up the process of providing work for pupils who are absent due to Covid, we have asked staff to assume that young people are well enough to complete schoolwork from home.

This means that appropriate resources will be made available on MS Teams and / or young people will be invited into live lessons (some secondary subjects) through their calendar when appropriate. If your young person is not well enough to complete work – or you are having issues locating the resources – please contact the school by email.

Staff absence and disruption to service

While it is hard to predict how things will develop, COVID and isolation is already affecting our normal operations and is requiring us to limit some services. Our food service is operating but we have noted issues with staffing and difficulties with supplies which may mean that changes to menus are made on the day. Our atrium service, for example, is currently suspended due to staff absence. Secondary pupils may wish to bring a packed lunch if they would normally eat in the atrium at lunchtime.

We continue to make use of additional supply teachers and will do our best to minimise the impact on pupil learning but would ask that you note that we are experiencing some disruption.

We will, of course, contact you if we have to make any significant changes to our service with our aim being to minimise the impact on teaching, learning, and wellbeing of pupils and staff.

Saturday sporting fixtures and training

Only hockey resumes this Saturday with mitigations as per arrangements before Christmas. Pupils are advised to check MS Teams in the morning in case of a cancellation due to inclement weather.

All other training and fixtures will resume from next week (Monday 10th January)

Please check the sports blog for up to date information: [Sports Pages – Jordanhill School](#)