



Sunday 8th November 2020

Dear all parents and carers

Important information about school this week (week commencing Monday 9 November 2020).

I wrote to all Year 9 parents yesterday (Saturday 6th November) outlining the need for all students in Year 9 to immediately self-isolate. This remains the case and more detail is outlined below.

Over the course of the last 24 hours we have been working on our contact tracing and as a result of that I am now in a position to give more detail of the implications for this for the school. The detail is outlined below.

In addition to needing to respond to a positive COVID-19 case, there is the added implication of the impact on staffing in the school as a result of this and the wider impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

Regrettably, this has had an impact on our ability to run the school for all year groups face-to-face in a way that ensures the school site is sufficiently staffed to offer the full curriculum to all year groups.

Therefore, please note the following that applies with immediate effect:

- All **Year 9** students will need to self-isolate **until the end of Friday 20th November**. Remote lessons via Satchel-One will be put in place for all Year 9 students from 8.30 am on Monday (tomorrow).
- All **Year 7** students will not be in school this week and we will provide lessons via Satchel-One. We expect Year 7 to be back in school on Monday 16th November. **The remote Year 7 parents' evening on Monday 9th November (tomorrow) will go ahead.**
- **Years 8, 10 and 11** will be in school tomorrow as normal.
- **Lesson 7 for Year 11** will go ahead as planned.
- The remote **Year 11 parents' evening** on Wednesday 11th November **will go ahead.**

To be clear on what you need to do as parents:

- If your child has been asked to self-isolate they should not mix with other people outside your household.
- If your child is in Year 7 they do not need to self-isolate.
- You/they do not need to get tested unless you/they develop COVID-19 symptoms.
- If you/your child develops symptoms you should ring 119 to arrange a test immediately.
- As parents, you do not need to self-isolate unless you or your child develops symptoms.

CARING, LEARNING AND SUCCEEDING

What should I do if my child develops Covid-related symptoms?

If your child becomes unwell with a new continuous cough, a high temperature or has a loss of, or change in their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), please follow government guidance and book a test. Please inform the school of the outcome of any test - negative or positive. You can email us via testresult@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk

Please do not wait until reception opens to contact us.

What work will my child complete?

Work will be set and submitted via Satchel-One for first thing tomorrow (Monday 9th November) and students should follow their usual timetable. If your child does not have access to ICT equipment or does not have access to the Internet, please contact us and we will support your child with work.

What happens if my child accesses free school meals?

School will provide vouchers if your child is entitled to free school meals. We will send out information to you.

I am sorry for the short notice and also in having to write to you on a Sunday afternoon. I hope that you understand that we are acting as quickly as we are able in these uncertain times.

Unless there is a need to do so sooner, I will write to you at the end of the coming week with an update on our arrangements for following week.

Please do all you can to keep you and your child safe and well.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Yours faithfully

Kieran Larkin
Headteacher