



Miss Sylvia Thomas – Principal of Banbury Aspirations Campus

15th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you to everyone who supported us during the lateral flow testing process that enabled us all to come back into school for a reintroduction to face-to-face learning last Friday. The atmosphere in school was excellent with students eager to return to their lessons and to rekindle their friendships.

On Friday your children were all provided with a box containing three lateral flow test kits for home use. Our website has advice on how to use these testing kits effectively. The government has advised that if your child does test positive using a kit at home, that they should immediately go for a PCR test (the best centre for Banbury is Wood Green) to verify that test. If they test positive with a PCR then you must notify school immediately so that we can determine which students/adults are close contacts and then ask them to self isolate. We will provide your children with a second box as soon as the next consignment arrives in school.

Unfortunately, we have had to send our Year 9 bubble at Futures Institute home for self-isolation today after a positive test in that group. This has been a stark reminder to us that the virus is still circulating in our community and that we need to maintain our vigilance to prevent another surge in cases. I will be following PHE advice every time we are notified of a child or adult testing positive in our school community. It is important, therefore, that we do all test twice a week even when we have no symptoms at all. Whilst the wearing of face coverings in indoor spaces has not been made mandatory currently by the government, I am very pleased that the vast majority of students who are not exempt, are choosing to wear a suitable covering when in the classrooms. We will only defeat this virus with a concerted effort from every single one of us. If your child is exempt, please provide them with something that identified them as such. Please could I also ask that you remind your children that they should reduce their mixing with other households when on the way to and from school. I appreciate that this is difficult with so many children moving around the town to all of the primary and secondary schools but we are advising our students that they should not be gathering in the local parks or on street corners or outside local shops.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact someone from school by email. We aim to respond within 48 hours if it is a general enquiry, but within the day if the matter is a safeguarding one.

I will write to you again on Friday with any updates and news for the two weeks up until the Easter break.

Yours faithfully

Sylvia Thomas
Principal of Banbury Aspirations Campus

