

THE MARVELL COLLEGE

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Our Ref: JCa/SRc

5th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year, I hope you have had a lovely break and an enjoyable Christmas.

I just wanted to update everyone with some key points on what we are doing in school in relation to Covid and trying to keep everyone in school as safe as possible. The points below highlight the precautions we have taken and the systems we have in place.

- From Tuesday 4th January 2022 all students, apart from those who are medically exempt, will be expected to wear a face covering both during lessons and when moving around the school. All students have been provided with two Marvell College black face coverings.
- The school has continued to maintain a "bubble system" for the majority of lessons and during break and lunch periods.
- We are continuing to promote the Hands, Face, Space philosophy across the school.
- During the first week back, all students have been offered the opportunity to have an in school Lateral Flow Test.
- Classrooms that do not have external facing windows are mechanically ventilated via the in-school air flow system. Classrooms which do have external windows have those windows open throughout the day so fresh air can circulate.
- We will continue to distribute Lateral Flow Test Kits and would recommend students test twice weekly (Tuesday and Friday morning ideally).
- We are expecting the local vaccination team to return to The Marvell College in the next few weeks so that all eligible students can either get a first or second dose of the Covid vaccine. Consent details for this will come out once we have a date confirmed by the local Public Health Team.

Please could I ask the following of you to help support the school through this period:

- Encourage students to bring their face mask to school each day, we do have a small supply of disposable masks which we give out, but this is not sustainable.
- Please continue to test your child twice weekly as per the instructions above.
- If your child does test positive for Covid, please notify the school as soon as possible.
- If students are a close contact of someone who has tested positive, they can continue to attend school provided they take a lateral flow test each day and this returns a negative result. If their lateral flow test is positive, a PCR test should be booked, and students should isolate until the test either comes back as negative, or the period of isolation following a positive result has been followed.
- If students are unable to attend school due to a Covid related absence, the school will make provision for remote learning through our website. This will direct students to a mixture of online learning or paper-based activities. Students should bring completed work with them when they return to school and hand this to their class teachers.
- We have been told by central government to expect a high rate of staff absence. You will appreciate that it is very difficult for us to predict what this might look like, and that the situation may change from one day to the next. We will do everything we can to keep all children in school. If staffing levels mean we cannot safely do this, we may need to close the school for

one or more year groups. This may involve us giving you this information at short notice as we respond to the need in school, and we thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Upcoming Parents Evenings and other events

We have two parent's evenings arranged this half term as well as a number of events and trips. We will continue to plan for these to go ahead but please do be aware that they may be cancelled at short notice due to the current situation with Covid or due to in school staffing issues. We will try to communicate everything to you as soon as we can.

In the meantime, thank you for your continued support, the testing yesterday and attitude of students in school was excellent. If you do have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact your child's year team.

Please do take care, very best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Capper', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr J Capper
Headteacher