

15th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

HEAD OF SCHOOL: Mr I Bacon

Re: COVID-19 arrangements and letter from Regional Public Health Service

As we reach the end of term, I wanted to update you specifically on some COVID-19 related issues and leave our last communication of the year as the Newsletter you will receive at the end of the week.

You will find attached with this letter a letter from Vicky Head, Director of Public Health for the local region. Essentially, she is recommending that secondary aged children and their families and secondary school staff take up the opportunity to have a COVID-19 test as we move into the holidays and the instructions for how to arrange this are detailed in the letter.

Within the Academy we have still only had the one positive case in a member of staff and only a small number of staff and students needed to self-isolate as a result. Thank you to all of you for your support, vigilance, and adherence to the measures we have put in place. As I said in a previous letter, our context has helped us and to a certain extent we have been lucky but the steps we have taken together as a community will also have played a considerable part in minimising any disruption to normal arrangements.

To continue to keep everyone safe we would still ask you to inform us if your child tests positive for COVID-19 through until and including Monday 21st December. You can contact us on COVIDpositive@watling.academy – please **do NOT** email the admin@watling.academy account. The COVIDpositive email inbox will be monitored by senior staff through until the evening of Monday 21st December. If your child does receive a positive test, then you will receive a call from a member of senior staff to trace any close contacts at Watling during the last few days of term.

I would like to reinforce that if your child does show any of the signs of COVID-19 or you are concerned that they are unwell during the remainder of this week you keep them at home and if appropriate, ensure that they self-isolate and book a test through calling 119 or using the online service.

In order to continue to ensure that face coverings offer the maximum protection, we would advise that they are washed regularly after use. The gov.uk website advice is as follows: *“Wash your face covering regularly and follow the washing instructions for the fabric. You can use your normal detergent. You can wash and dry it with other laundry. You must throw away your face covering if it is damaged.”*

If there are any positive cases at Watling during the remainder of this week then I will obviously inform all those concerned who need to take any action as soon as possible. Once again, many thanks for your support this term with helping us limit any disruption to the education of our students.

Yours faithfully,



Mr I Bacon
Head of School

Respect / Responsibility / Kindness