

Dear parents/carers,

I wanted to write with further information following my letter earlier in the week. As you know, the number of COVID cases is increasing in the community and we have noticed this in the academy, especially over the last couple of weeks. We are very pleased with the work that Year 12 have been doing at home and staff at the academy have worked very hard to ensure that we have not had to ask another year group to do this.

Whilst we are hoping that half term will act as a firebreaker, we obviously want to do all that we can to prevent a surge of cases at the academy in the run up to Christmas. The 2 main mitigations that we have are testing and face masks.

We have had our delivery of lateral flow tests from the Department of Education and so students on site today have been given lateral flow tests to take home. Please can you ensure that students complete a lateral flow test on Wednesday 3 November before they return to the academy on Thursday 4 November. If this is positive then you will need to book a PCR and your child will need to isolate whilst awaiting their results.

Earlier in the week I sent a request that students wore a face mask in communal areas unless they were exempt or they really did not want to wear a mask. From Thursday 4 November, all students will be expected to wear a mask in all communal areas unless they have an exemption card. Can you please ensure that your child has a face mask with them please. If your child needs an exemption card then can you please email their Head of Year so that this can be arranged:

Year 7: s.barrett@macademy.org.uk

Year 8: s.baker@macademy.org.uk

Year 9: l.jones@macademy.org.uk

Year 10: c.ball@macademy.org.uk

Year 11: h.richardson@macademy.org.uk

As ever, thank you for your continued support. We have had a very positive first half term at the academy with students being able to access many extra-curricular activities and opportunities but the last few weeks have also shown us that we are not back to normality yet. Let's hope for a more settled second half term! I hope you can all enjoy the half term break.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Coning
Head of School
Macmillan Academy