

13th December 2021

Dear Varndean Families

### COVID 19 Update - Dec 21

Case rates locally and nationally continue to rise, especially among school age children, and while numbers in school remain relatively low many families, students and staff will be concerned to avoid a COVID positive case in the run up to the Christmas holidays.

With this in mind it is sensible to increase our protective measures for the remainder of this week to add an extra layer of security for the whole community and enable our end of term events programme to continue as planned. Therefore please note that from Tuesday morning face coverings will be required everywhere inside the building - including in classrooms. Please make sure your child brings a face covering to school each day for this purpose.

In January we intend to test the whole community prior to the return to school following the Christmas holidays. To enable this to happen and make sure that we have done all we can to 'Keep COVID Out' of school we will stagger the return to school in line with the latest guidance from the DfE.

The schedule is as follows:

January 4th	Testing in school - years 11, 7 and 8	Google classroom work for all year groups
January 5th	Testing in school for years 9 and 10  Year 7, 8 and 11 first day in school at 8.40am	Google classroom work for years 9 and 10
January 6th	All students in school at 8.40am	

To make sure that curriculum time is not lost as a result of this staggered start, teachers will set relevant and appropriate work for their lessons for those days and will monitor the learning. Please note this work will be set through the google classroom. Students will be expected to log into all of their classrooms to complete the work for the day in line with their school timetable.



We are drawing up the testing schedule and will send you notification of your child's individual appointment later this week.

Please let us know if this announcement creates any questions for you by contacting Molly Goodchild [mollygoodchild@varndean.co.uk](mailto:mollygoodchild@varndean.co.uk)

Kind regards  
Varndean School

