

Viewforth High School

Windmill Community Campus, Windmill Road, Kirkcaldy, KY1 3AL



Head Teacher: Lisa Moore

Depute Head Teachers: June Greig, Alistair Stewart, Jack Wilson

Dear parents and carers.

07 January 2022

Happy New Year to everyone in the VHS community. I hope this letter finds you and your families well having enjoyed a lovely festive period with family and friends.

Covid-19

As we begin the new term, we are faced with ongoing challenges as a consequence of Covid-19 but we'll continue to do all we can to keep our pupils, staff and families safe and I thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child is adhering to the health and safety mitigations. I have noted below a reminder of these mitigations and ask that you reinforce them at home.

- Face coverings worn at all times for pupils and staff (unless exempt on medical grounds). We do have disposable face coverings which we are happy to issue, but pupils are asked to bring their own face covering to school.
- Regular hand washing or hand sanitising and bottles of sanitiser are located at each entrance to the building and the entrance to each learning area.
- Once pupils have eaten their lunch, they will be encouraged to go outside (weather permitting) to get fresh air as there is evidence that the virus is less transmissible outdoors.
- If your child is displaying symptoms of Covid-19, please don't send them to school but arrange for a PCR test to be taken.

The Lateral Flow Testing programme is an effective way to prevent the spread of the virus and pupils and staff are encouraged to participate in this programme by taking tests twice per week. Test kits can be collected from the school office free of charge.

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19 (high temperature, new continuous cough or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste) they must self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Guidance and book a PCR test. Please do not send them to school.

There have been some significant changes to the self-isolation guidance and below is a summary of the key changes for your information. If you are unsure if your child should be isolating, please contact the school office or your child's guidance teacher and we will be happy to offer advice.

Positive cases are advised to self-isolate for 10 days. However, if the individual returns two consecutive negative LFD tests taken at least 24 hours apart with the first test no earlier than day 6 they may end isolation before the end of the 10 day period if they have no fever.

Close contacts who are fully vaccinated, having received 3 doses of the vaccination (plus 14 days) or are aged under 18 years and 4 months, can take daily LFD tests for 7 days instead of isolation - provided the tests are negative and they remain without symptoms. If someone has not received 3 doses of the vaccination, they will need to book a PCR test and even if this is a negative result, they will need to isolate for 10 days.

Advice on confirmatory PCR tests where people test positive on a lateral flow device (LFD) test they are now not advised to get a PCR test to confirm infection but to follow isolation advice as it applies to them as a positive case – there is an exception for people who may be eligible for the Self-Isolation Support Grant who are advised to take a PCR test to ensure they can confirm their infection to be potentially eligible for financial support.

Dates for your diary

Please note all Parents' Evenings will take place virtually this year and more information will be shared with you in advance of these meetings. If you would like to join us at a Parent Council meeting, please email the Chair Alex Tomlinson at viewforthparentcouncil@gmail.com who will send you an invitation to join the online meeting.

Monday 24 th January	Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm
Wednesday 26 th January	S2 Parents' Evening 4.30pm – 7pm
Tuesday 1 st February	S3 Parents' Evening 4.30pm – 7pm
Thursday 24 th February	Senior Phase Follow Up Parents' Evening (S4-S6)
Monday 7 th March	Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm
Monday 25 th April	Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm
Monday 13 th June	Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm

Please continue to look after yourselves and stay safe.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Lisa Moore
Head Teacher