

# PENAIR SCHOOL

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29 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

On Saturday the Prime Minister announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of Covid-19 in the UK.

We have seen a rise in Covid cases in our school community in recent weeks reflected in the level of student and staff absence. We are keen to continue to combat this with our systems of control that we have in place designed to keep all members of our school community safe.

The government have updated their guidance for schools in England. The guidance is that face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings for staff, visitors and pupils or students in year 7 and above, unless they are exempt.

This does not change our current practice, but I am writing to remind all students attending school that they should be wearing a face covering (unless they are exempt). Students should wear a face covering when moving around the school in all corridors and communal areas including toilets and the dining hall. This does not affect our students greatly as they mainly move around the building outside. They are not required to wear a face covering whilst they are seated in the classroom, or when sat in the designated eating areas, unless of course they wish to do so.

The government have also asked us to remind parents that they should be supporting their child undertaking lateral flow tests twice per week. For our school this is on a Thursday and Sunday with results reported to the NHS.

Finally, the government have asked that schools will again run mass testing for students on their return to school in January. I will write to you in due course to update you on how we will run these testing cycles shortly and any implications for students, staff, and parents.

Thank you for your continued support in helping keep our staff, students, and our local community safe and school disruption to a minimum.

Yours sincerely,

**James Davidson**  
Headteacher

Penair School – Headteacher – Mr J Davidson  
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