

Dear Parents and Carers,

November 25th 2021

Despite the present impact of Covid on student attendance and staffing we have managed to keep things as near to normal as possible at school. The students have still had all their normal lessons and we have continued to offer a range of clubs, activities and sporting events across all year groups.

We made sure that all students had remembrance assemblies and respected the two minutes silence on Armistice Day. The photo below is of our senior council and Mr Russell laying a wreath to remember Marine James Wright, a former student at Wey Valley



Please use the link below to see some of the other great things the students have been up to this term. [Latest News](#)

Wey Valley Academy

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We need to make you aware that this last week has been difficult with 8 staff off ill and a shortage of supply teachers across the County. **If** we have any more staff off sick, we will need to put into place our emergency plans to keep the school open and keep almost 1000 children safe and learning. This will include reducing the number of year groups attending school each day on a rolling basis to enable the remainder to be taught safely within the school.

The table below sets out which days the students would attend depending **if** we have to put it into action. The system would then roll through from that starting point as set out below. We will attempt to give several days' notice and work will be available on the website and on TEAMS

I must stress this is simply a contingency plan at this time. We will notify you if it is to be used! So, keep sending your children to school!

Week B [2]	Home Learning	In School
Monday 29 th Nov	Y7	8,9,10,11
Tuesday 30 th Nov	Y8	7,9,10,11
Wednesday 1 st Dec	Y9	7,8,10,11
Thursday 2 nd Dec	Y10	7,8,9,11
Friday 3 rd Dec	INSET	
Week A [1]		
Monday 6 th Dec	Y7	8,9,10,11
Tuesday 7 th Dec	Y8	7,9,10,11
Wednesday 8 th Dec	Y9	7,8,10,11
Thursday 9 th Dec	Y10	7,8,9,11
Friday 10 th Dec	Y7	8,9,10,11
Week B [2]		
Monday 13 th Dec	Y8	7,9,10,11
Tuesday 14 th Dec	Y9	7,8,10,11
Wednesday 15 th Dec	Y10	7,8,9,11
Thursday 16 th Dec	Y7	8,9,10,11
Friday 17 th Dec (last day	Y8	7,9,10,11

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Winter Flu Vaccination Programme

The school nursing team will be in school to provide the students with their Flu vaccinations next week (these are nasal sprays – no needles).

Monday Year 7 and Year 8
 Tuesday Year 9 and Year 10
 Wednesday Year 11

Covid Vaccinations

You should have received a letter earlier this week from the NHS notifying you of the walk in covid vaccination clinics available for children aged 12 -15. These are not happening on school campus and parents have to book for their children to receive a vaccination through the NHS as set out in the letter. www.gov.uk

COVID 19 – Update Current of Cases

Dorset continues to report a steep rise in Covid cases especially in young people aged 10 – 15. The county is now at 522 / 100,000 and numbers in schools are much higher.

This week we have had 65 children test positive for Covid and have to isolate.

Please do not send your child to school with symptoms, get them a PCR test and they can return when a negative result is received. All students should wear masks and wash their hands and LFD test twice each week. We have lots of test kits if you need more.

Year Group	Positive Test
Year 7	25
Year 8	23
Year 9	8
Year 10	5
Year 11	4

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TikTok

We are saddened to report that a few students became involved in last month's TikTok App craze to "abuse your school" by creating false accounts and posting vile comments about teachers. We are in contact with Dorset Police, TikTok and other organisations to firstly remove any sites and secondly to identify and punish those involved.

Children under 13 years old cannot have TikTok accounts, those between 13 and 15 have accounts that are private by default. However, this relies on the child being honest about their age when signing up. TikTok contains mature content and is advised only for over 15s.

WhatsApp has a new age limit of 16 in response to the General data protection Regulations (GDPR) now in force!

[Common Sense Media-Parents Ultimate Guide](#)

We will be running Internet safety training sessions for students and parents after Christmas. These will be led by the Police.

Wet Weather arrangements

At Wey Valley we operate a split lunch with Yr 9,10 and 11 eating first followed by Yr7 and 8. This is so that all students have the opportunity to take advantage of the great food served in our canteen without a big crush. This does mean we cannot have students roaming through corridors at breaks and lunchtimes as other Year groups will still be in lessons. If the weather is very cold or wet the students have the option of eating in the various canteen areas or going outside. We will also open the Tennis Centre and Sports Hall depending on how many staff we have available.

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Uniform

Wey Valley Academy Uniform

The majority of students are coming to school in the correct uniform and they look very smart. However, some are starting to wear items of clothing that are not allowed and we will be clamping down on this over the next few weeks.

On PE days students must only wear official school PE kit which includes all the WVA branded kit as well as the choice of a plain (no logo) black sweatshirt and a plain Navy blue hooded top. We will not allow students to wear any other colours or items of kit with brand names. Please support us in this.

If your child is cold in school they can wear a plain t-shirt under their shirt, a plain black sweatshirt or jumper under their blazer (not in place of it) and if we get really cold days and have to keep windows open for ventilation we will allow coats to be worn but at the discretion of the teacher. Hooded tops or any other coloured sweatshirts are not school uniform and must not be worn under blazers.

Jewellery – one earring (stud) in each ear. No other facial piercings are allowed. We do not allow clear piercings.

Please can I remind you that next Friday 3rd December is an INSET day and the school will be closed for students.

Yours faithfully



Rob Russell
Principal

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