

Dear Parents and Carers,

November 29th 2021

### **Covid Contingency Plan Activated**

I wrote to you on Friday about the increasing numbers of staff testing positive for Covid and suffering other illnesses. I set out the academy's contingency plan that involves one year group returning to remote learning (not coming into school) each day on a rotation to enable the academy to maintain the safety of and education provision for as many students as possible.

I am sorry that there is no alternative other than to take this step and I apologise for the inconvenience that this will cause. From tomorrow, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, the plan will be activated and the first Year Group (Year 8) will work from home. We will then move to Year 9 on Wednesday and Year 10 on Thursday. Hopefully next week we will be back to normal but that depends on rates of transmission and how many staff I have in work.

The table below sets out the worst-case arrangements extending up until the Christmas break. Hopefully this will not be required and we will return to normal on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

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

#### Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

[www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk](http://www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk)

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T 01305 817000

Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 5AN

Infection rates remain very high within schools in Dorset (see attached letter from public Health Dorset).

If you are a key worker and need to send your child to school on their specific day of remote learning, please email [office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk](mailto:office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk) and your son or daughter's Head of Year confirming your child's full name, tutor group, that you are a key worker and which sector of key work applies.

Please only send your child in to the academy on their remote learning day if absolutely necessary and no other options are available. This is because we will not have many staff available to provide support to additional groups.

If your child has an **Education Health Care Plan** or a named **Social Worker** you may also contact us directly in regard to sending your child in to school.

If your child has an entitlement to **free school meals** and you wish to collect a meal from us on the day of remote learning please email [office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk](mailto:office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk).

To support breaking transmission we ask that your child does an additional lateral flow test on remote working days, as well as Sunday and Wednesday as usual. If you need more test kits please ask your child to collect these from office. Regular testing is an essential identification measure in reducing the spread of COVID 19 and I am grateful for all parents supporting this.

In terms of work setting, this will be via Teams, the school website and paper copies provided to those we know have limited ICT access. I have asked teachers to speak with their groups and ensure they know what to do on their remote learning days.

I will continue to review the situation regularly and will send further communications as relevant.

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### **Laptops to support Learning**

If your son or daughter is eligible for free school meals and does not have access to IT at home please get in contact with their Head of Year as we may be able to support them by providing a laptop to use for remote learning.

### **Winter Flu Vaccination Programme**

We have set the remote learning days so that they do not interfere with this week's Flu Vaccination programme:

Monday      Year 7 and Year 8 (done today)  
Tuesday     Year 9 and Year 10  
Wednesday Year 11

### **Covid Vaccination Programme 12-15**

As per my previous correspondence the government recommendation is that children aged 12-15 get vaccinated as soon as possible. I have re sent the letter (dated 24<sup>th</sup> November) from the School Age immunisation Service / NHS for your information and attention.

As stated I hope this will be a short term intervention and we will return to normal on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Yours faithfully



Rob Russell  
Principal