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04 January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Return to School

Wednesday 5 January - Years 10 and 11 ONLY

Thursday 6 January- Years 7-11

We look forward to welcoming all year groups back to school this week after the Christmas break. We appreciate some students may be feeling anxious about their return, but unfortunately, we are all having to adjust to life with Covid and the changing restrictions that it brings.

As you will be aware, there have been changes to the self-isolation and testing guidance over the last few weeks. The flow chart at the end of this letter provides guidance on when to isolate and how long for.

Ensuring a safe return to on-site learning: We have today begun our on-site testing for Years 10 and 11 and by Wednesday we will have completed this round of testing. Testing is a vital preventive measure to ensure we keep our school community safe. Students were issued with additional testing kits prior to the Christmas holidays and are being given the option to collect additional testing kits as they have attended for their on-site test today and tomorrow. Additional home testing kits will continue to be issued to students directly.

Risk Assessment: Our priority remains doing everything we can to keep everyone in our community safe. We have updated our risk assessment to reflect the most recent government advice, and this remains available on the school website via the link here: [Hungerhill School - Risk Assessments](#)

Face Masks: One of the updates is the mandatory wearing of face masks by all students and staff as advised by the government, this includes within classrooms. Students must bring their own however if they do not have their own, they will be provided with one by school. For each subsequent mask issued a charge of 20p will be incurred. Any student exempt of wearing a face mask due to medical reasons must show this evidence to their Form Tutor or Head of Year. Any student refusing to wear a face mask without exemption will be required to work in isolation during lessons and will not be allowed into the communal areas at social time, in order to protect the rest of the school community.

Year Group Bubbles: Year group 'bubbles' will continue to remain in place at social times, where year groups have designated areas.

Extended School Day: In order to further support Year 11, we will be resuming the extended school day from Monday 10 January. As previously communicated, this will not be mandatory for all students. More details regarding this will follow later in the week.



Attendance: School attendance will be mandatory for all students from Wednesday 5 January (Year 10 and 11) and all students from Thursday 6 January. The usual attendance rules and protocols will be in place from these dates. We have to report daily attendance figures to both the DfE and Local Authority who are actively pursuing fixed penalty notices where attendance is not authorised. We were delighted to celebrate the positive attendance of students throughout our Attendance Advent in December and will continue to roll out our rewards programme throughout the Spring Term. Can we remind all parents, that the school target remains 97% and absences caused by covid enforced self-isolations are exempt from this when determining a child's eligibility.

Remote Learning: All students should engage with remote learning on Tuesday 4 January, when they are not in school for their test. Years 7-9 should continue to engage with remote learning on Wednesday 5 January. Students have previously engaged exceptionally well with their remote learning, and we look forward to these habits being maintained this week. All remote learning is available via Teams. Please remember, that in the event a student must self-isolate once on-site learning resumes, if they are well enough, they should continue to follow their school timetable, accessing live lessons via Microsoft teams.

Transport: The latest guidance is encouraging students who live a short distance from school to walk, cycle or scoot to and from school wherever it is possible and safe to do so. If your child has to travel by public transport, they should wear a face covering (unless you are exempt, including if you are aged 11 and under). It is important you wear them for the entirety of your journey, including inside a bus or train station.

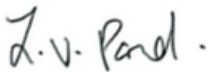
Contacting School: The latest guidance is discouraging visitors to school. No parent should access the school premises without a prior appointment. During any planned visits parents should wear a face mask for the duration of their visit and are required to provide evidence of a negative LFD test taken within 24 hours or to take an LFD test upon arrival. If you have any issues, telephone or email contact with your child's form tutor or Head of Year must be the first point of contact. Alternatively, please contact us via the Contact Us page on the website - [Hungerhill School - Contact Us](#)

Following feedback from parents, we have a twitter handle @hungerhill where we post updates and we also use the platform to celebrate the work and achievements of our students. Please give us a 'follow'.

Staffing updates: We have appointed a new Head of Year 7, Mr King who has started with us today. Mr King is a very experienced Head of Year, so we are very excited that he has made the decision to join us at Hungerhill. Mr Tomlinson will be staying on at the school until Easter, to support Year 11 as their Head of Year, during their last few months with us.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents/carers for their engagement with the mass testing process and their support of the school's safety protocols.

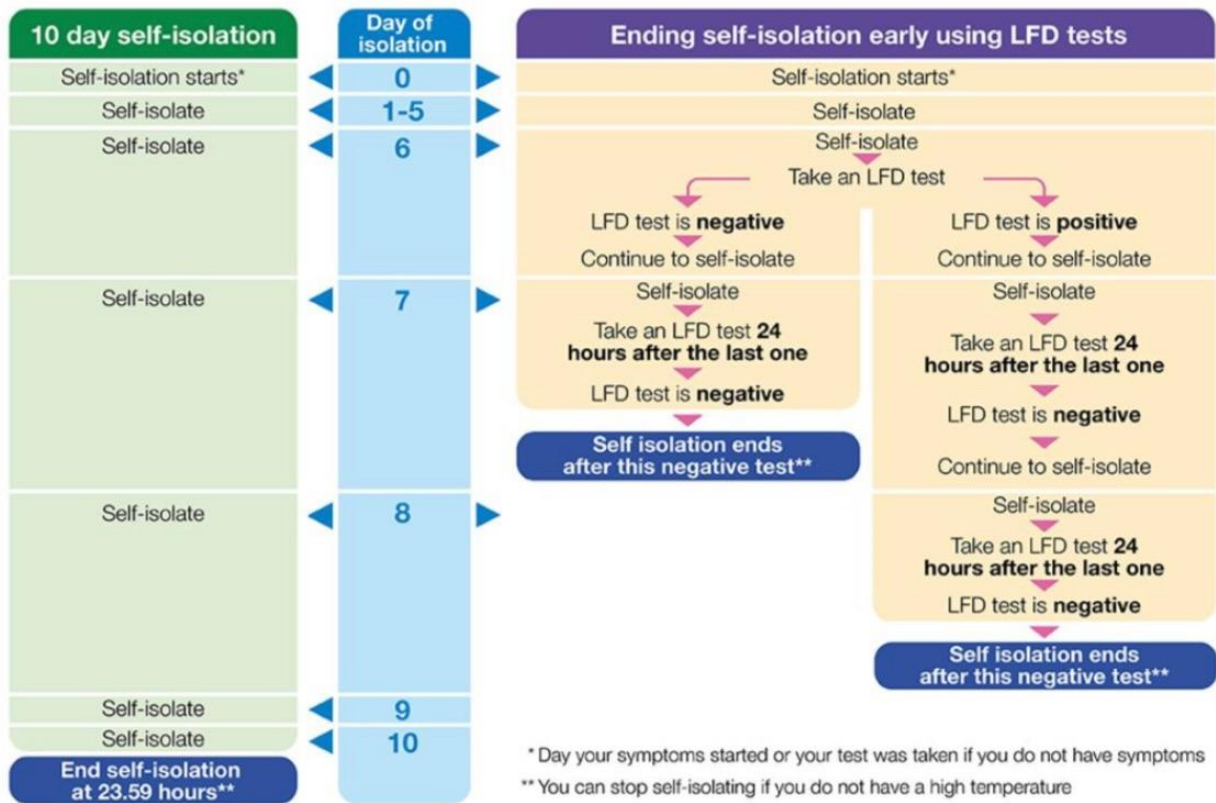
Yours sincerely



Mrs L Pond
Headteacher



When to isolate and how long for....



Hungerhill School is part of the Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust
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