



# QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL

## Covid-19 Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware from media reports Cheshire West and Chester have seen a significant increase in rates of COVID-19 over the past 7 days. The cause of this increase is likely to be the Variant B.1.671.2 (Delta variant). In order to ensure that we can continue to keep our schools operating as safely as possible we need to share some important messages with you.

## Reintroduction of face coverings for all staff and pupils from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June

In response to the increasing number of cases of COVID-19, the Director of Public Health has advised the re-introduction of the wearing face coverings for all staff and pupils in year 7 and above while indoors at school in the whole of Cheshire West and Chester. This includes classrooms where social distancing cannot be maintained, with the exception of certain lessons such as PE. We are therefore returning to the position we were in prior to half term and would welcome your support with this once again.

As you know, face coverings are only one part of a range actions that should be implemented to minimise the risk of spreading the virus. We should all still continue to:

- Maintain two metre social distancing from anyone outside of your household where possible
- Wear a face covering when entering public indoor buildings and travelling on public transport
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and warm water or hand sanitiser
- Undertake asymptomatic testing as a household twice a week
- Self-isolate with your household and get a PCR test if you develop symptoms of COVID-19 – even if your home test was negative
- Self-isolate for 10 days if you are a contact of a confirmed case

As previously, no-one will be excluded from education on the grounds that they are not wearing a face covering and therefore any students who were previously exempt, need to ensure that they are wearing their lanyard from Monday. For any students who forget their face covering or their face covering becomes damp or damaged and they do not have a spare, school does have a small emergency supply of single use masks which are available from TALS.

## Twice Weekly Testing

Could I please take this opportunity to remind families about the twice weekly asymptomatic testing as a household each week. Test kits continue to be available to students every lunchtime for collection and tests should ideally be undertaken on a Monday and Thursday morning before school, with the results reported online.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have seen a notable decline in the number of testing kits being collected within school and also the number of home tests being reported through to the NHS. With the rapid spread of the Delta variant, I would urge everyone to keep testing so that we can keep school safe and play our part in keeping infection rates down.

*Inspiring Individuals • Empowering Minds • Defining Futures*

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Headteacher: Lyndsay Watterson MA NPQH



## Contact Tracing

Public Health would like to remind everyone that if you test positive for COVID-19, you are responsible for reporting to NHS Test and Trace the name and contact number of everyone you have been in close contact with during your infectious period. Cases are infectious in the two days before your symptoms started (or two days before your test if you haven't got symptoms), and the 10 days after your symptoms started (or 10 days after your test if you haven't got symptoms).

As a school, we will contact trace all contacts within the school setting with your support, but for any contacts outside of the school, it is the responsibility of the 'case' to advise NHS Test and Trace who is a contact.

If you test positive, you should also advise anyone you have been in contact with during the infectious period, that they should isolate and wait to be contacted by NHS Test and Trace. If we as a school become aware of a student who have been in contact with cases during the infectious period and are not isolating, we will advise the student to self-isolate.

I am aware that the local picture is changing quite rapidly and advice can change within days. Please do not hesitate to contact us in school if you have any questions or need some advice about actions/next steps.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lyndsay Watterson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Lyndsay Watterson**  
**Headteacher**