



**Warrington  
& Vale Royal  
College**

## **Covid update – 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

Dear Student, Parent & Carer,

I hope you have all had a restful Christmas break and are looking forward to 2022.

Following the emergence of the Omicron variant, the college continues to adhere to government guidelines. This letter gives an update on the measures currently in place at college.

The timetable will continue as normal. This means that students should continue to attend all the sessions on their timetable. We will continue to do everything we can to limit any disruption to learning. **However, as a result of Covid-related staff shortages, the delivery of English and maths classes will continue via Google Classroom for the period Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January to Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 inclusive. The college will provide safe, on-site learning spaces for students to engage with the delivery of English and maths where necessary.**

**If any other curriculum areas are affected similarly i.e. through Covid-related staff shortages, curriculum teams will communicate with those students affected directly via the College App and on Google Classroom.**

### **What to do if you feel unwell, have a positive test and self-isolation.**

Please stay at home if you feel unwell with any of the symptoms of COVID-19, however mild, and book a PCR test. Please inform college by emailing us at [covid@wvr.ac.uk](mailto:covid@wvr.ac.uk)

The guidance around self-isolation following a positive test has changed:

- If you test positive, your self-isolation period includes the day your symptoms started (or the day you had the test, if you did not have symptoms) and the next full 10 days
- You may need to self-isolate for longer if you get symptoms while self-isolating or your symptoms do not go away
- You may also be able to leave self-isolation after 7 days if certain conditions are met. Read more about how long to self-isolate here [how long to self-isolate](#)

### **Do I have to self-isolate as a close contact?**

From Tuesday 14th December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 was introduced. All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.

This advice/guidance is under review so please contact college via [covid@wvr.ac.uk](mailto:covid@wvr.ac.uk) if you are a close contact and we will advise you on the actions required.

### **Self-testing**

**IMPORTANT: Students should complete a lateral flow home test before returning to college tomorrow – students should take one self-test at home either in the evening or morning before they return. Students should then continue with twice-weekly tests.**

### **Vaccinations**

Information about pop up vaccination clinics are available on the NHS 'grab a jab' web site [NHS Grab a Jab](#)

### **Face Coverings**

Face coverings should continue to be worn by students, staff and visitors in communal areas, unless exempt. Students must also wear a face covering when traveling on public transport or on dedicated transport to and from college.

From the 1st of January the Government has now changed the guidance to state that all secondary and college **students need to wear face coverings in classrooms** unless you are exempt.

Your support with wearing face coverings is appreciated. There have been a small number of students who need to be asked repeatedly to wear one. Remember, wearing a face covering protects others. We have some members of the college who are extremely vulnerable so we ask all students to respect others and wear a face covering.

Please remember, students are expected to bring their own face coverings and make sure they are worn correctly, covering both your mouth and nose.

### **January Assessments**

We have a busy month ahead with a number of external applied general exams and assessments- these are all planned to run as scheduled, so please continue to prepare for them.

Face coverings and self-testing, along with the other protective measures that have been put in place, are designed to keep you, your family, and friends as safe as possible.

Thank you again for your support during this challenging period. It is an ever-changing situation and any updates will be provided via MyWVR, the College App and Google Classroom so please check these regularly.

Stay safe and well.

With my best wishes,



**Nichola Newton**  
**Principal and CEO**