

3rd December 2021

Dear Parent and Carers of Year 8 students,

I am writing to let you know there has been an increase in the number of confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 within Year 8 at Kelvin Hall School. At the moment, this increase in cases is limited to Year 8 students only and we are not seeing an increase in other Year groups. Last week, we had a similar increase in Year 7 which has now reduced.

Government guidance for this academic year means that schools are no longer involved in identifying close contacts of confirmed positive cases of COVID-19. Contact tracing for secondary school students is completed by the national Test and Trace programme. Test and Trace may be in touch with you in the coming days if they identify your child as a close contact. Children who are close contacts of someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 are not required to self-isolate, but they are encouraged to get a PCR test. Children do not need to self-isolate while they wait for the result of a PCR test unless they have symptoms.

All pupils should continue to attend school as normal unless they develop symptoms of COVID-19 or have another authorised reason for absence.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, please keep them at home and book a PCR test for them. The three main COVID-19 symptoms remain:

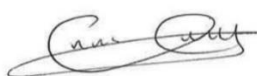
- a temperature of 37.8 degrees or higher;
- a new continuous cough;
- a change to or loss of taste and smell.

However, some commonly reported symptoms of the COVID-19 variants include headache, sore throat, tiredness, and cold-like symptoms, so please be aware of these as well and seek testing if you are in any doubt.

I strongly encourage all Year 8 students to take a lateral flow test over the weekend before they return to school on Monday.

Wearing face masks and regular lateral flow testing, in combination with our other protective measures, are the best way to keep the school community safe and open to all students. Lateral flow tests are available to students at school and can be collected from local pharmacies. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school if you need any support, advice, or further guidance.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Christopher Leng
Head of School
Kelvin Hall School