

The Dorcan Academy

St. Paul's Drive
Swindon SN3 5DA

Telephone: 01793 525231

Facsimile: 01793 431461

Email: enquiries@dorcan.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S Bareham MBA GRSM

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Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to inform you that our local public health team have advised that schools in Swindon continue their additional control measures for COVID-19 until the end of November, when they will review the situation again.

We will therefore continue to avoid having 'live' assemblies and large gatherings and will provide virtual alternatives; we will continue to request face coverings to be worn in communal areas such as corridors when movement occurs between lessons and in the canteen areas when not eating. We will continue to ensure good ventilation and cleaning procedures as we have become very used to doing!

As you will be aware our vaccinations took place this week; thank you to those who gave consent. The vaccination is considered to be the best protection for all eligible cohorts including staff and students, therefore, if your child missed the vaccine in school they can, if they wish, attend a test centre and receive their vaccination that way.

Students should continue their twice weekly LFD tests; where students are identified as close contacts of confirmed cases (including siblings of confirmed household cases), the advice is to take daily LFD tests while awaiting the PCR results and to continue to attend school (unless they test positive). This is also advised for primary school children but is at the discretion of parents.

If your child is unwell and displaying symptoms, we advise that they stay at home until they are symptom free. Where individuals test negative for COVID-19, and they have had a fever, they should still wait until 24 hours post fever before returning to school. Colds and other non-Covid symptoms are circulating but in the first instance persistent coughs and high temperatures should be treated as possible COVID-19 and trigger isolation and testing. This is the case even if others in the school or class have tested negative.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sherryl Bareham
Headteacher