



29 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As the COVID infection rate in Wyke and other areas of South Bradford remains high, we have taken the decision to encourage pupils to wear masks once again when moving around corridors at Appleton Academy. Pupils will not be expected to wear masks in classrooms; however, they may do so if they wish.

We do also have a stock of home test kits for Secondary pupils; if they wish to test at home, they can ask their form tutor for a kit or parents can email [info@appletonacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@appletonacademy.co.uk) with the name of their child and the form they are in e.g. 7.3, and we will provide a test pack.

We are also going to start a trial of weekly testing in school from Monday 4 October 2021. These tests will take place in specific lessons, once a week, and will not disrupt children attending school (unless they test positive for Covid) or the delivery of their education. We intend to start testing with Year 9 as there have been a small number of positive cases in this year group in recent weeks, before rolling this out to other year groups. We will once again assume parent consent for testing, as we did with the tests we recently undertook when pupils returned to school after the summer break. If you have not given permission for your child to take part in testing in school, they will not be tested.

Finally, at this time, we have still not heard from the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) with a timescale for the Covid vaccination offer that is being made available to some young people. We will let you know as soon as there is a date being proposed by SAIS for this to take place and we would strongly urge you to consider providing consent to your child receiving the vaccine. SAIS will write to all parents to seek consent before any vaccination programme begins. The Academy may be asked to distribute those consent forms, but the programme itself will be managed by SAIS.

Please continue to inform to us if your child tests positive for Covid, as all cases are still being reported to the local Public Health Team so that they can assess the impact locally. If your child has symptoms of Covid, please ensure that you do not send them to school and instead arrange for them to take a PCR test. If your child tests positive using a lateral flow device, they should isolate immediately and arrange to take a confirmatory PCR test.

We would like to thank you for your continuing support and patience.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen Jones'.

Ms H Jones  
Executive Headteacher