

*Emailed on 22/11/2021*

Dear members of the Langley Community,

As we move from autumn to winter, we would like to take this opportunity to provide a Covid update, reassure you of our continued commitment to mitigating the risk of covid within our community and provide some helpful guidance reminders.

### **Michaelmas term update**

Since the start of Michaelmas term, we have had a steady trickle of cases across our two sites but have been fortunate not to have seen any outbreaks or an ongoing upward trend of cases, as has been seen in many similar environments across the UK. We remain optimistic that this trend will be sustained and reduce in time, but are, of course, not resting on our laurels.

We cannot express strongly enough, how much the positive results of keeping our community safe has been down to everyone routinely mitigating risk within their own households and we thank you all for playing your part.

### **Our continued commitment to the community**

- Although tracing is predominantly now in the hands of NHS Test and Trace, we continue to monitor, 7 days a week, the Covid health of our community to pick up any potential hotspots or trends.
- We will continue to review and align our risk assessment to this data and Government and Public Health Advice, drawing upon our contingency planning where necessary to add in further risk mitigation as required.
- We will remain stringent and continue to encourage our hygiene messaging of thorough handwashing, hand sanitising and catch it, bin it, kill it across all settings within our school.
- Regular touch point sanitising continues throughout the day, with deep cleaning taking place before the start of each school day.
- For additional protection, our sites and transport services continue to be antimicrobial sprayed termly.
- The wearing of face coverings for years 7 and above remain in place on our transport services unless an exception has been notified and we are clear that anyone wishing to extend this into the school day, may do so, if they wish to.
- We continue to retain a supply of lateral flow test kits and encourage all staff and year 7 and above pupils and students to test regularly.

### **We kindly ask**

- All consenting members of the community to engage with regular lateral flow testing, routinely twice weekly, increasing to daily or every other day if there has been an increase in cases within you or your child's close contact environment. PCR testing continues to be freely available to close contacts of positive cases via the government testing link as follows [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/get-a-free-pcr-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus-covid-19)
- For staff and year 7 and above that are part of the school lateral flow testing program, please do keep uploading your results to the school portal as well as Test and Trace. If you are not eligible to record results to the school portal, please do inform [coronaupdate@langleschool.co.uk](mailto:coronaupdate@langleschool.co.uk) of any positive lateral flow and PCR results that may impact our community.
- Communicate, communicate, communicate! Please do use our dedicated mailbox [coronaupdate@langleschool.co.uk](mailto:coronaupdate@langleschool.co.uk) to ask any questions, raise any concerns or just to keep us up to date with any covid changes that have an impact on your family or that may have an impact on our community. The mailbox is secure and confidential, and we will liaise with other departments as necessary to ensure your communication is addressed through the right channels, in turn we will keep you informed and respond to your questions as promptly as possible.
- If you are offered a vaccination, we ask those who may be undecided to fully consider the NHS information at hand and if taking advantage of the vaccination roll out to ensure you book in your slot to government timeline guidance. Provision will be made, as necessary, to allow time for vaccination appointments. Vaccination information and updates can be found at [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccines - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus/covid-19/vaccines)

As winter unfolds, we will be paying particular attention to ventilation, being mindful that we also address the need for comfort while at work and school. Strategies like opening windows wide during breaks and closing during lessons, for an air exchange boost, will be in place along with increasing air flow to a safe but sensible level. Whilst we will not be expecting anyone to work or study in a cold environment, we would ask that thought is given to wearing appropriate layers and that all staff are mindful to improve ventilation within their environment, where possible.

Thank you for your time to read and digest further Covid updates, as always, we welcome your feedback via [coronaupdate@langleyschool.co.uk](mailto:coronaupdate@langleyschool.co.uk) to help us improve communication and understanding of what works best to mitigate the risk of covid within our community.

Kind regards

**Rachel Smith**

**Director of Compliance and Operations**



**Pre-Prep & Prep School:** 01603 868206

**Senior School & Sixth Form:** 01508 520210 – Extn. 217

**[langleyschool.co.uk](http://langleyschool.co.uk)**