



Update from the Principal

Friday 8 October 2021

Dear parents / carers,

The last two weeks have been incredibly busy with a rise in not only coronavirus infections, but also lots of colds and other illnesses. As you know we have moved to Amber in terms of our covid response and enhanced measures are being put in place. Following a further risk assessment with public health the following measures will be in place for next week:

1. **Face coverings worn on school transport and in communal areas (corridors and canteen) during busy times. We are also recommending that pupils wear them in lessons if they can.**
2. **No assemblies or large gatherings.**
3. **Close contacts and siblings of confirmed cases to stay off school and take a PCR test. Please note that the advice from Public Health is to book an assisted PCR test as it is more reliable.**
4. **Increased frequency of testing. New testing kits are on order and should be ready for distribution next week. We will update you further when we have them.**
5. **No fixtures against other schools.**
6. **All parent evenings and meetings to take place on line.**

The vaccine roll out to 12-15 year olds will begin at Huish on Wednesday 13th October. Links have already been sent out for the consent forms, but just in case you missed these here they are again:

COVID = <https://saint.somersetft.nhs.uk/covid/2021/east>

FLU = <https://saint.somersetft.nhs.uk/flu/2021/east>

Having spoken to the team in preparation for next week, they have informed us that Year 11s and 6th form students may also take the opportunity to have the vaccines should they wish.

As stated in an earlier communication, we are not involving ourselves in the issue of consent. We understand that people will have strong opinions and views on this and it is not our position to encourage or discourage participation in this vaccine rollout. Our only role is to support the NHS is facilitating the process. If you have specific questions for the vaccination team please contact them direct at SomersetSaint@SomersetFT.nhs.uk

Events

- As mentioned above, all meetings will be online until further notice, so the forthcoming House evening and Year 6 parent evenings will now take place remotely, so please watch out for information regarding these.

- Extra-curricular events (within school) will go ahead but will be limited to no more than 30 participants in an activity and socially distanced if at all possible. Fixtures against other schools will not take place until we move back to Blue.
- The House Championship is still going well, despite the rise in covid, with current leaders being Chelston as of this week. There is still plenty of time though, and with the poetry competition underway, along with a trophy design competition, there is still lots of room for change before half term.

Updates

- We were due to carry out a lockdown drill this week, but due to the move to Amber we felt it was not appropriate. This will be planned in another time, when we are back to normal operations.
- Conduct cards are busily being filled up on the positive side by pupils as we have started rewarding 5 positive signatures with a cup of hot chocolate. Any pupils with a filled up card should go to the House base to redeem a voucher. If the negative side is filled up a phone call home should be being made by the form tutor.
- As mentioned previously we have now designated the 22nd October as a Bank Holiday to fall in line with the majority of other schools in Somerset; this is to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The INSET day has been moved to the 1st November. This means that pupils will break up for half term on Thursday 21st October and return to school on Tuesday 2nd November.

Opportunities

- We are currently looking for minibus drivers and someone to run our first aid room on a temporary basis. If you are interested in either of these roles, either full or part time, please do let us know. huishrecruitment@educ.somerset.gov.uk
- We also are looking for Maths, English and Science qualified tutors to work with pupils who require intervention to help plug any gaps in learning that are evident from the covid lockdowns. Although we would prefer teachers, we would consider applications from those with relevantly experience.

We are still accepting applications for the following vacancies. Please see the [vacancies](#) page of our website for further information:

Catering Manager. 37 hours per week. Term time only plus 3 days. Permanent.

Cover Supervisor: 30 hours per week. Term time only. Permanent.

Teacher of A Level Sociology (0.6fte) with option of taking on 0.4fte as Teacher of Psychology.

With best wishes.

Mr Chris Wade
Principal