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4<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may know, following on from the concerns raised by the spike in positive COVID test results that emerged on Friday and over the weekend, Lateral Flow Tests were carried out on the whole of Y7 this morning. These tests produced one positive test result. The student concerned has been asked to stay off school, pending a PCR confirmatory test. They will only be able to return to school once that test has been completed and either a negative result has been received, or a period of self-isolation has been completed if the PCR test result is also positive. On the advice of the Local Authority health team, we have asked all students in the tutor group most affected by the spike of positive results to complete a PCR test. We have – again – asked them to return to school only when either a negative result has been received, or a period of self-isolation has been completed if the PCR test result is positive. Those students will receive remote teaching while they are at home awaiting results. We will continue to carry out testing in school for the rest of Y7 until it is clear that the spike in cases has not become more widespread and pronounced. Y7 assemblies will now go online until further notice.

The Local Authority health team has advised that no other alterations to protocol are necessary at this point, and so we will make no further changes for now, but will keep the situation under review.

I know that there are many and very varied views among our families about the measures that schools should currently be taking in relation to the COVID pandemic. It is likely that some of you will feel that we should be doing more, while others will think we should be doing much less. Whatever your personal views, please be assured that the school will endeavour to work with the health authorities to provide the best and the safest possible education for your children.

If you have any questions or concerns about the matters addressed in this message, please contact me at Farlingaye.

Kind regards,

Andy Sievwright  
Headteacher