



1st April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you well.

Covid update

You will know that from the 1st April 2022, the Government made the decision to move us into the next phase of dealing with the pandemic. The next phase is centred around the changes to testing and the associated isolation periods.

Whilst we await specific school guidance, I can share with you the message from Government about how we will move forward. As expected, this will mean that society is expected to view Covid-19 in a similar way to how we view other respiratory illnesses such as flu. As such, both PCR and LFT testing has ceased.

Adults who work in school and young people who attend school should follow the guidelines below if they begin to feel unwell with symptoms of a respiratory infection:

- **adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.**
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- **children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.**

There is no minimum or maximum length of time for students or staff to be off.

Of course, we can all help to reduce the spread of respiratory infections by doing the following:

1. Get vaccinated
2. Let fresh air in
3. Practice good hygiene
4. Wear a face covering when in crowded areas. This is **not something** that is currently seen as necessary in schools for staff or students, but anyone is welcome to wear a face covering should they wish. Plymouth High will not be asking people to wear a





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face covering in school unless the guidance changes, but we respect the right of individuals to make the choice to do so if they wish.

Super Star PHSG Mathematicians

Students at PHSG have been successful in certification at several of the UKMT Maths Challenges already this academic year and we are extremely proud that three of our students qualified to go into the next, more challenging round because of their performance in the February Intermediate rounds. Eliza in year 8 and Megan in year 9 took part in the Grey Kangaroo event and Eleanor in year 11 took part in the even more demanding Pink Kangaroo on 17th March. All three students received certificates for their results in the UK wide competitions. We are really proud of these students as the Kangaroo challenges are extremely demanding.

End of term

The last day of term for year 7 to 11 and year 13 is Thursday 7th April 2022.

The last day in school for year 12 (unless they are involved in the Gym and Dance Festival on the 7th) will be Wednesday 6th April. Year 12 will be studying from home on Thursday 7th April.

The first day back after the Easter break will be Monday 25th April 2022 for all year groups.

On Thursday 7th April, year 13 lessons will run from period 1 to 4 meaning the day for year 13 students will end at lunch time unless students are involved in the final assembly which is due to take place in the afternoon.

Students in year 7 to 11 will attend school as usual, but they will be involved in the Gym and Dance Festival and will also attend the final assembly. For students in year 7 to 11, the last day will finish at 3.30pm as usual. Following the long disruption, we are all looking forward to seeing the return to full, in person, Festivals.

Do look out for our newsletter next week. As usual, there will be much to celebrate.

Year 11 into 12

We have spent the last 3 weeks talking with our year 11 about their plans for post 16 education and also meeting with young people from other schools who have applied to PHSG for a sixth form place in September 2022. It has been so interesting hearing about the

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exciting plans our young people have for their futures and reassuring to know just how carefully they have thought about their A level choices. As usual, over 80% of our year 11 have applied for a place in our sixth form and we have met with around 70 year 11 students from other schools. All year 11 students have until the results day in August to make their final decision about where they would like to study, but with the increasing popularity of our sixth form, the September 2022 year 12 is shaping up to be a vibrant and focused year group.

I wish you all a happy and restful Easter break.

Regards,

Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.

