



# The COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL *Leftwich*

Achieving Excellence

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Principal Mr M Snelson BSc (Hons), PGCE, MSc

Dear Parent/Carer,

November 2021

As we prepare for the start of the second half of the Autumn term, I wanted to update you on some of our plans and on our COVID control measures.

### **Student Tracking and Interventions**

During the second half of the Autumn term, students from all year groups will be sitting Student Tracking exams/tests so that we can find out what they know but more importantly what they don't know. We will then design and deliver a variety of bespoke interventions to provide every student with the opportunity to maximise their academic potential. These interventions will be implemented mostly during lessons – the place the vast majority of impactful learning happens. Some students may be invited for additional sessions and I thank parents/carers in advance for your support in encouraging your child to embrace these opportunities.

### **Information Evenings and Parent Engagement**

For Year 11 students and parents/carers, our online Information Evening is still available to watch [https://youtu.be/MOSPC6\\_whXM](https://youtu.be/MOSPC6_whXM). The presentations explain how exams may look for Year 11 students and provides students and parents/carers with advice and guidance designed to ensure students are as successful as possible in the Summer. They also share some of the joyous and rewarding experiences planned for Year 11 this year.

The presentations shared at the Year 7 Information Evening are also still available: [http://leftwichhigh.com/documents/infoeve/year\\_7\\_information\\_evening\\_2021.pdf](http://leftwichhigh.com/documents/infoeve/year_7_information_evening_2021.pdf).

I look forward to welcoming students and parents/carers to the:

- **Year 8** Information Evening on **11<sup>th</sup> November**
- **Year 10** Information Evening on **18<sup>th</sup> November**
- **Year 9** Information Evening on **15<sup>th</sup> March** - *next term to incorporate advice and guidance around students selecting their Year 10 and 11 subjects*

We hope these events will be in-person but will keep this under review.

Thank you to the vast majority of students and parents/carers who have already signed up to the SIMS app. Invitation emails have been sent to all students and parents/carers. Timetables, homework,



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attendance, achieving excellence points and messages are all being shared via the app. If you have any questions please email Mr Ralph (aralph@leftwichhigh.com).

Thank you to those Year 11 and Year 7 parents/carers who responded to the parent/carer survey. I am delighted that **99%** of those who responded would **recommend The County High School Leftwich** to another parent and **97%** of parents/carers felt their child was **happy** and **safe** at the school.

Parents/carers in Year 8, 9 and 10 will be forwarded the survey following their Information Evening. Once all year groups parents/carers have been surveyed we will share the responses in more detail and use them to help make The County High School Leftwich even better.

### **Uniform and Punctuality**

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank parents/carers for your support in ensuring your child has the **correct uniform and wears it correctly** ([Uniform Information - from website](#)) and is at their **tutor room for 08:45** every morning. Being dressed smartly means students are ready to think smartly and being on time means they don't miss any learning. Our carefully sequenced tutor time programme is designed to hone and progress students': reading and numeracy skills, character development and their leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communication skills. The two fundamentals of being dressed correctly and punctual are part our expectation that students are **Ready to Learn**, enabling them to develop their **knowledge** and **skills**, their **character** and their **creativity** and **imagination**.

### **And Finally...**

Whilst, due to COVID, the first half of the Autumn term contained disruption to different degrees for individual students and colleagues, it also contained many **joyous and rewarding** experiences as showcased in our new look newsletter (<https://sway.office.com/vzYAgU30940aKMny?ref=Link>). We **embraced and celebrated difference** and we provided a calm and focussed learning environment for our students, which they embraced.

I am looking forward to more of the same in the second half of the Autumn term, starting with the awarding of the Achieving Excellence Bronze badges, during the first week back. Well done to those who have achieved this milestone. Keep working hard to those who missed out. There are still plenty of opportunities to embrace and be rewarded via the Achieving Excellence points, in the coming half term and the rest of the year.

The remaining pages explain our updated COVID Control Measures. Along with your child, please read them carefully before we return to school on Monday. We are particularly pleased that we will be able to re-start our exciting enrichment programme at lunchtimes and after school from Monday. Thank you once more to my colleagues who voluntarily provide these activities.

Many thanks for your support; together, we can make the next half term even more joyous and rewarding!

Mr Snelson



Principal



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## COVID Control Measures

These have been devised in consultation with the Cheshire West and Chester Public Health Team, who we've had conversations and communications with during this week.

Please spend some time going through these with your child, prior to their return on Monday.

Firstly, on a reassuring note, during the last week before the half term break we saw a fall in positive COVID cases, which has continued over the half term break. Therefore, we are able to re-start our exciting enrichment activities on our return. I have been very impressed and heartened to see so many students engaging with these at lunchtime and after school and I look forward to seeing them do this again throughout next half term.

The Cheshire West and Chester Director of Public Health is issuing new guidance regarding positive cases in a household. The guidance is as follows:

*"we are now making the general recommendation that if **one individual in a household tests positive, any children and young people in that household who attend school or college should:***

- *Take a PCR test (ideally on Day 3-5 after first exposure), and*
- *Take a **daily LFD test for 10 consecutive days** from the date of first exposure*
- ***Continue to attend school** provided that their test results (PCR and LFD) are **negative***
- ***Self-isolate for 10 full days** from the date of the test if any of their test results are positive*
- *In the event of a **positive LFD** test result, obtain a confirmatory **PCR test***
- *If the confirmatory **PCR test** is taken within the **two days** following the **positive LFD result and PCR result is negative, the young person can return to school/college.***
- *In the case of other contacts (identified by NHS Test and Trace), we will continue to advise on any additional testing measures on a case-by-case basis.*

LFD Test Kits are available:

- From school or college
- Online Order coronavirus (COVID-19) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))
- From community pharmacies Regular rapid lateral flow coronavirus (COVID-19) tests - NHS [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)
- From certain Cheshire West and Chester Council test sites
  - Stanney Oaks Leisure Centre, Ellesmere Port
  - The Dingle Centre, Winsford
  - Pop up mobile testing unit
  - Libraries: Northwich, Neston, Frodsham and Ellesmere Port and the mobile library service

Venues for the mobile testing units and opening times for all Cheshire West and Chester Services are available at Testing without symptoms [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/)

*We are recommending the above measures to ensure the safety of children and staff in our schools, to minimise the disruption to young people's education and to ensure our schools remain open. Thank you once again for your continued support and co-operation."* Ian Ashworth Director of Public Health



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In addition to above, we need to continue to ensure:

- **All students, where consent is given, staff and visitors, test themselves prior to returning on Monday.**
- **Face coverings** are worn inside the building, with the exception of classrooms, unless the student/staff/visitor is exempt
- **Year 7** use the **Main Reception** entrance at the start of the day

We also all need to be mindful of the need for:

- **Twice weekly testing**, where consent is given
- **Washing hands** using warm water and soap, and sanitiser
- Using **tissues** and discarding them in bins
- Following our **one-way system**
- Entering the building at the start of the day via their **year group entrance** (see attached guidance)

We will continue:

- with increased **cleaning**
- to **open windows** and doors, wherever possible. **Students should wear an additional layer under their jumper**
- to have an additional **food serving location (resulting in three separate locations)**
- to utilise the PE changing room toilets as an additional toilet block

Students, staff and visitors should follow the guidance from the Director of Public Health stated above.

They should also not attend school if they:

- have any of the **symptoms of COVID**, in which case they should book a PCR test
- have received a **positive LFD test result for COVID**, in which case they should book a PCR test and continue to isolate until the PCR result is received
- have received a positive PCR test result for COVID
- are required to **quarantine**
- have been told to **isolate** by NHS Test and Trace

**Please do ensure that your child has a face covering, and a spare**, with them until further notice, unless they are exempt.



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### For Reference: Current Arrangements and Procedures

#### Student Entrances at the Start of the Day

Year 7	Main Reception Entrance
Year 8	Entrance by the Canteen
Year 9	Service Drive Entrance (near MFL)
Year 10	A15/B17 Door
Year 11	PE Doors

School Day (all students start at 08:45 and finish at 15:20)

Tutor Time	08:45
Period 1	09:15
Period 2	10:15
Break	11:15
Period 3	11:35
Lunch	12:35
Period 4	13:20
Period 5	14:20
Canteen open from 8am Library open until 16:30 (Mon-Thurs), 16:00 (Fri)	

#### Food Serving Areas

Year 7 and 8	Study Zone	Cold food/grab and go
Year 9, 10 and 11	Gym	Cold food/grab and go
All year groups	Canteen	Hot food

#### School Uniform

Full school uniform should be worn every day.

[Uniform and Equipment reminder](#)  
[Uniform Information - from website](#)

#### PE Kit

Students are to come to school in their full uniform. On the days they have PE they will get changed into their PE kit.

#### One-way System

We will continue with our one-way system to help with the safe movement around the building.

#### Behaviour Expectations

We expect students to:

- Be ready to learn
- Be respectful and safe
- Embrace opportunities

Please find a link to our Behaviour for Learning policy below, which **clearly identifies our expectations and the consequences if these expectations are not met**

[http://leftwichhigh.com/documents/Policies/behaviour\\_for\\_learning.pdf](http://leftwichhigh.com/documents/Policies/behaviour_for_learning.pdf)



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## COVID Control Measures

1. **Ensure good hygiene for everyone**
  - a. Continue to encourage washing of hands with soap and water
  - b. Hand sanitiser continues to be available at various points in the building
  - c. Tissues continue to be available and should be disposed of in bins
2. **Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes**
  - a. regularly touched surfaces will be cleaned more often
3. **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated**
  - a. windows and doors are kept open wherever possible
4. **Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID (see below)**

### **Students must not attend school if they:**

1. have any of the **symptoms of COVID**, in which case they should book a PCR test <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
2. have received a **positive LFD test result for COVID**, in which case they should book a PCR test and continue to isolate until the PCR result is received
3. have received a positive PCR test result for COVID
4. are required to **quarantine** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/red-amber-and-green-list-rules-for-entering-england>
5. have been told to **isolate** by NHS Test and Trace

### **Close contacts** of COVID positive cases no longer need to isolate as long as they:

- are fully vaccinated
- are under 18 and 6 months
- have taken part in or are currently taking part of an approved COVID vaccine trial
- are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Close contacts will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and advised to get a PCR test and/or isolate. Unless told to isolate they are able to continue to come to school whilst they wait for the result.



**Household Contacts** - if one individual in a household tests positive, any children and young people in that household who attend school or college should:

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- Take a **daily LFD test for 10 consecutive days** from the date of first exposure
- **Continue to attend school** provided that their test results (**PCR and LFD**) are **negative**
- **Self-isolate for 10 full days** from the date of the test if any of their test results are positive
- In the event of a **positive LFD** test result, obtain a confirmatory **PCR test**
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- In the case of other contacts (identified by NHS Test and Trace), we will continue to advise on any additional testing measures on a case-by-case basis.

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- From community pharmacies Regular rapid lateral flow coronavirus (COVID-19) tests - NHS [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)
- From certain Cheshire West and Chester Council test sites
  - Stanney Oaks Leisure Centre, Ellesmere Port
  - The Dingle Centre, Winsford
  - Pop up mobile testing unit
  - Libraries: Northwich, Neston, Frodsham and Ellesmere Port and the mobile library service

Venues for the mobile testing units and opening times for all Cheshire West and Chester Services are available at Testing without symptoms [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/)

### Asymptomatic COVID Testing

- For students/staff where consent has been granted, continue to test twice weekly in the home, following the initial two on-site tests
- Where consent has been granted, students under 12 should be tested by an adult, in the home
- Results (positives and negatives) should be uploaded to <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>
- If a student or member of staff has a positive test with the home testing kits, a PCR test should be booked via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> . They should not attend school



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## Face Coverings

- Appropriate\* face coverings should be worn by all students, staff and visitors, unless exempt, when in the building apart from classrooms
  - \*An appropriate face covering, includes:
    - A mask
    - Masks should only cover the mouth and nose - no balaclava type masks
    - Masks must not have any inappropriate content on them
- The government expects and recommends people continue wearing a face covering on public transport.

