



Prospect Hill, Whitby, North Yorkshire YO21 1LA  
**Tel:** 01947 602406 | **Web:** [www.ccwhitby.org](http://www.ccwhitby.org) | **Email:** [post@ccwhitby.org](mailto:post@ccwhitby.org)

15 November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Covid cases in Year 7, the reinstatement of masks and the recommendation for PCR tests for students in 7T1 and 7T5**

I am writing to let you know there has been a number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within Year 7 at Caedmon College, some of which may be as a result of mixing in school. As a result, we are following North Yorkshire Public Health's advice which means that in addition to use of hand sanitiser, minimising contact between year groups and ensuring good ventilation, **we are reintroducing the need for Year 7 students to wear masks in classrooms and communal spaces.** This will take effect from Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November for 2 weeks, when we will review the situation. **Can I please ask that your child comes into school with a mask tomorrow?** If your child is medically exempt from wearing a mask, please contact the school to let us know this.

Whilst schools are no longer required to undertake detailed contact tracing for cases of COVID-19 (unless in very exceptional circumstances), following discussion with the North Yorkshire Public Health team **we have been advised to recommend that in the worst affected form groups – 7T1 and 7T5 – your child has a PCR test as it is likely that they have been in close contact with a positive case.**

Anyone who has tested positive on a PCR test in the last 90 days is not required to have a further PCR test unless they develop new symptoms. However, they should continue with regular lateral flow testing PCR tests can be accessed via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. It may be easier to request a home testing kit where available. They do not need to isolate while they wait for the result, unless they have symptoms.

Test and Trace may be in touch with you in the coming days if your child is directly identified as a close contact by any of the cases, but as a school we will not pass personal contact details on to the cases to share with Test and Trace. Children who are close contacts of someone with COVID-19 are no longer required to isolate unless they develop symptoms.

The 3 main symptoms of COVID-19 remain a fever (temperature 37.8OC or higher), a new continuous cough, or a change to/loss of taste or smell. However, other commonly reported symptoms of the Delta variant include headache, sore throat, tiredness, and cold-like symptoms, so please be aware of these as well and stay at home and seek further testing if you are in any doubt.

Regular lateral flow testing will also help to identify individuals with COVID-19 who are not displaying symptoms. In addition to undertaking a PCR test, we are recommending daily lateral flow testing, for seven days, to pick up any additional cases more quickly. You must request a confirmatory PCR test should the result come back positive. Lateral flow tests can be ordered online from <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>, but continue to be available from school.

Thank you for your support with this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Norden".

Jon Norden  
Principal