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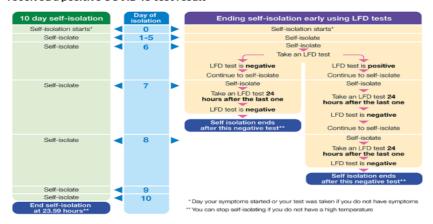
Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well and are managing to stay safe. Many thanks for your understanding regarding the challenges we have been facing due to COVID and absence. Your emails of support have been very much appreciated.

Since Tuesday 11th January there has been a temporary suspension of confirmatory PCR tests in educational settings. This means that all staff and students who have tested and reported a positive LFD result will no longer be advised to get a confirmatory PCR test. This change was informed by public health advice. With high COVID-19 rates, the risk of a positive LFD result being false is very small. They therefore don't need to ask people to do a confirmatory PCR unless they:

- have symptoms (in which case they need to follow the stay at home guidance, selfisolate and order a PCR test)
- wish to claim the Test and Trace Support Payment
- have been advised to take a PCR test because they are in a clinically vulnerable group
- have been advised to do so as part of a research or surveillance programme

Examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms or have received a positive COVID-19 test result



We strongly recommend that you test twice weekly at home and to <u>report all results to NHS</u>
<u>Test and Trace</u> and to us at school https://tinyurl.com/stbcovidresults

Anyone with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate and follow self-isolation guidance. Information on the new arrangements can be found in the <u>stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection.</u>

We currently have 30 positive cases taking us to a total of 111 cases since the beginning of the academic year. The numbers we gave last week were not 100% accurate because we included the students and staff who had tested positive for covid over the Christmas holiday period. We have since been advised not to calculate these cases because the staff/students had not been on school site whilst having the virus.

The Cheshire Schools Digital Media Finalists

Our amazing Year 9 students - Jenna Welsh, Chloe Lyons, Nieve Williams, kye Riddings and Owais Muneer have made the final of the Hate Crime Media Challenge they participated in, in October with Cheshire Police. Voting is taking place via the links on social media and www.collaboratedigital.com/vote the vote is open until 5pm on Friday. Please support our students!

Boteler Wider Curriculum

Boteler Wider Curriculum can be found here: Support your child in attending clubs and activities that may interest them. https://www.boteler.org.uk/bwc/



<u>Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School » Wider Curriculum</u>

At Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School we really value the wider curriculum. We believe in offering our students a deep, broad and balanced 'whole' curriculum that will allow them to have a wide range of academic, creative, practical, sporting and character-building experiences.

www.boteler.org.uk

All students have a START profile account for their Careers Platform. This will help them to explore the world of work, make study choices, write their CV, and prepare for interviews as well as helping them to apply for apprenticeships, courses, and work experience. Please encourage your child to use this as a platform at home. The week commencing the 7th of February is National Apprenticeship Week, students will have a timetable of events for this week.

Chess Club

The Chess Team have scored 100% in the first round of the English Chess Federation Schools Chess Puzzle Competition and will continue in the tournament this term. The team also have a team battle at 4pm on Monday against a number of other schools.

MFL

Languages Trip - On Monday 10th January thirteen Year 9 students accompanied Mrs Ward to University of Manchester to take part in a languages event called Viva Languages. The purpose of the trip was for students to fully understand the importance of learning languages and gain knowledge of what languages courses they can study at university and career paths that are available to linguists. Students enjoyed a lecture in a lecture theatre, completed an escape room activity in French or Spanish and then had a university taster lesson in Japanese. It was a very enjoyable and informative day. Our Year 9 students were extremely impressed with

the range of jobs that will be available to them when they use their language skills later in life.

Language Assembly - Mrs Ward has delivered assemblies to Year 9 students this week on the importance of learning a language at GCSE. Students have learned important facts such as "Only 6% of the world population speak English as their first language and 25% speak no English at all". Year 9 students now have an understanding of the rationale behind studying a language due to the needs of the Global market and the rich benefits of learning about other cultures.

Information on the vaccination programme for 12 to 15 year olds

Thank you for all your work to support the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination programme for 12 to 15 year olds in schools. Around half of 12 to 15 year olds have now received at least one dose. Young people aged 12 to 15 in England are now being offered a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at a minimum of 12 weeks from the first dose, following advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). Parents can book vaccinations for their child, if aged 12 or over, through the NHS booking system. Vaccination for this group will also continue to be carried out by the school age immunisation service (SAIS). In school vaccination will begin from Monday 10 January. For our school these will begin on the 10th February 2022.

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Monday 31st January, Year 9 Parents' Evening 15:30-19:00. Bookings are now live.

Year 9 Options

Wednesday 26th January, Year 9 Options Assembly from Mr Koltan during Registration and Period 1 in the School Hall. Options information and support material will be released on the School Website from 6pm.

Sporting Fixtures

- Year 7 and Year 8 Girls Football at Beamont Academy- Wednesday 19th January- speak to Mrs Hughes
- Year 9 and Year 10 Boys Rugby at Kings Academy- Wednesday 19th Januaryspeak to Mr Johnson
- Year 8 and Year 10 Boys Futsal- Wednesday 19th January- speak to Mr Burbidge

Thank you as always for all your support it is very much appreciated and please do not hesitate to contact us if we can help or support with anything.

With very best wishes

Beverley Scott -Herron

Headteacher