



Winterton Community Academy

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Headteacher – Mr K Rowlands

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16th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final week of term, I would like to thank you for your support in helping to enable a smooth return back into the classroom this week.

We have continued to monitor the local context in relation to infection rates and at this time, it remains high across the authority and specifically, within our immediate locality.

As a result of this, we ask that you continue to test your child frequently at home and remind them of the importance to observe social distancing requirements at all times.

To ensure that our school environment remains as safe as it can be, we will again ask that our students complete a test in school on Monday.

The benefit of this is that we can be assured that all students and staff who are in the building are unlikely to be carrying the virus and therefore the school is a safe environment.

We would therefore encourage students to attend school as there is no reason for them to work from home, if they have completed a test and returned a negative result. We do however appreciate that for some, this is a necessary precaution and as previously stated, we will not take any action with regards to absence from school.

Whilst for the final week we will endeavour to set work for students to complete at home, it is not a substitute for the classroom environment and it is a challenge for teachers to plan appropriately to meet the needs of those who are in attendance and those who are working from home.

If these circumstances continue from September, then the expectation will be to attend school with the assurance that testing measures are in place when necessary. We will at that stage only set work for those students who are required to isolate.

Whilst contingency plans are in place, we maintain that any student who does not test will be asked to work in an alternative area under supervision and report to the school reception at 08:50 ensuring that they do not go directly to their lesson. We have consulted the government's operational guidance and it supports taking such measures to ensure that the school environment is safe.

We appreciate the challenges faced and respect that views may differ however, as a result of the high level of engagement in testing, we have been able to keep school open for the final two weeks and support two fantastic camp events. Without this approach, this would not have been possible.

As ever, thank you for your support and understanding.

Kind regards,

Mr Rowlands
Headteacher