



VAT Registration Number: 120 1656 61





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A Science and Language College with Academy status

Urmston



4<sup>th</sup> October 2021

## RE: Year 7 and Year 8 COVID-19 Update

Dear Year 7/8 Parents and Carers,

I am writing to provide an update on the current COVID-19 situation at Urmston Grammar School. Unfortunately, since the Lakeside Residential last week, we have seen a significant rise in the number of students and staff who attended the trip testing positive for COVID-19. For a number of individuals the positive result has only been identified using a PCR test. After liaising with Public Health England we would request that all Year 7 and Year 8 students who attended the trip arrange a PCR test as soon as possible using the link here. Students can continue to attend school as normal before their test and whilst awaiting their results.

If your son/daughter tests positive they will need to self-isolate for 10 days. Some siblings may also need to selfisolate. Please see the additional guidance document which also explains how remote learning will be arranged.

If your son/daughter tests negative they should continue to take an LFD test every day for the next 10 days. Any students who test positive during this timeframe should then arrange a confirmatory PCR test.

In addition to the testing measures outlined above, we will also be reintroducing a range of additional safeguards in school to help manage the situation. Students and staff will all be required to wear a face covering in communal areas of school such as corridors, social spaces and during lessons unless they are medically exempt. We will also temporarily suspend Year Group gatherings. This means a return to virtual assemblies and also the Year 7 CAT tests scheduled for this week will also be postponed. We will inform Year 7 parents/carers as to when these will be rescheduled in due course. Finally we will reintroduce enhanced cleaning around school and, though we will not resort to Year Group 'Bubbles' in the strict sense, steps will be taken to ensure Year 7 and Year 8 avoid mixing with other cohorts during break and lunchtime. All arrangements will be explained to students in form time on Tuesday to ensure they are fully understood.

We intend to reintroduce these measures with immediate effect so wherever possible please ensure your son/daughter has a face covering for school tomorrow. Initially we hope these measures only need to be in place for a period of 10 days, however we will inform all students and parents when they can be suspended.

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr T Kennedy-Fowler **Deputy Headteacher** 



