

2nd July 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to clarify the current position at Forge Valley School in regard to Covid-19.

Forge Valley continues to follow all the current guidance given to schools. This guidance requires schools to collapse class/year group bubbles when a pupil has tested positive for Covid-19. The current rise in Forge Valley pupils testing positive for Covid-19 reflects the trend both locally and nationally. Due to a number of positive PCR tests and a number of positive LFT overnight, I made the decision to collapse Year 10. If, however the pupils with a positive LFT return a negative PCR test, pupils will return to school on Monday. I will inform parents of arrangements over the weekend.

I would like to remind parents that if their child is sent home that they are required to self-isolate. I am aware that not all pupils are doing so and are freely mixing with friends outside of school. Self-isolation is not time off school and all lessons will take place using Microsoft Teams.

It is really important that parents provide a copy/proof of a positive, or where necessary, negative test result. This is not always happening and leads to uncertainty, and the possibility of the school making a wrong decision. Pupils need to continue taking LFT. These tests are extremely useful and are helping us stop the spread of the virus.

From Monday 5th July, the school will expect staff and pupils to wear a face mask, not a visor, in any indoor space that is occupied by other people and where social distancing cannot be maintained. This will include classrooms, offices and communal areas (there are some exceptions for strenuous PE etc).

If there is a medical reason, or another reason, why pupils cannot wear a facemask then they do not have to wear one; this should be discussed with myself.

I am hoping that if everyone follows the guidance, both in school and outside, the number of Covid cases can be limited and there will be no more pupils' bubbles collapsed.

I will be writing to all parents in the last week of term outlining arrangements, as they stand, for September.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr D Barrowclough | Headteacher