

Dear Parent/Carer

As the second full week of term draws to an end I wanted to write to all parents to express how proud we have been of our students since the start of term.

Without fail students have taken on all of the challenges that they have been presented with. Across the school teaching staff have been impressed by how quickly students have settled back into their learning routines. A special mention to Year 7 students who missed out on much of their transition, they have shown a maturity beyond their years as they have navigated their way around a new school environment. We have also welcomed a number of external students into Year 12 from schools across the region and we would also like to thank them for settling so quickly into school life.

The key Covid change this week was wearing masks to and from lessons and when not in social spaces. Students have fully respected and adhered to this, showing a full understanding of the situation that we are all facing. The one way system has been tweaked in some areas of the school, and again students have responded positively, even when it takes them a longer way round to get to where they would like to be!

We will undoubtedly have challenges ahead. We are already coming into the season of coughs and colds, and this is difficult to navigate when testing for Covid is not readily available. The advice is still to try and get a test if your son/daughter has Covid symptoms, and to self isolate at that point for 14 days. Even if your son/daughter feels better after a few days they still need to isolate for the full 14 days unless they have received a negative test result. We know how frustrating this might be, but would ask that you adhere to these guidelines so that we can all remain as safe as possible. If a student is self isolating then work will be provided for them via the Teams system. If we do have a positive case in school then we will contact the Health team and they will advise on next steps. In other schools this has led to partial or full bubbles being sent home to isolate for two weeks, if this happens here there will be online learning provided via Teams. There is a full guide to Covid related absence on our website.

Thank you again for all your support and I will write again to you all soon.

Yours sincerely

Adam Darley

Headteacher

The Purbeck School