

3rd December 2021

Dear Parents/Carer

Update Letter w/c 6th December 2021

We echo the previous letter, by thanking all of our students for handling the disruption at Pembroke in such a positive and mature manner. We have tried to keep business as normal as best we can, and everyone has risen to the challenges that the week has brought, and responded to them with great courage.

This week we have had a large number of staff absent and there has been a shortage of supply staff in the area to support these absences. It has been difficult for all members of the Pembroke family for those in and out of school.

We are not in a position to have everyone back on Monday. Staffing will start to return to normal over the week and we continue to try and work with other agencies to get supply staff into Pembroke. We are deeply frustrated by the evolving situation and the difficulties it brings.

Year 9 & 10

Monday 6th December - Remote learning Year 9 & 10

Tuesday 7th December - Year 9 Remote Learning / Year 10 to return to school

Wednesday 8th December - Year 9 to return to school

WORK FOR STUDENTS TO COMPLETE - REMOTE LEARNING Year 9 & 10

During the closure period, we will set work for all students to complete. This is being sent to student's school email accounts and will be a hybrid of online learning and personal study. Please can students check their emails on a regular basis.

If you cannot access this work online please call the school. We will achieve together to sort this. We ask that all parents/carers speak to their child about the importance of completing schoolwork during the closure period. Staff will be available to provide advice and guidance on work that is set. If parents/carers and/or students have any queries, please contact staff by email.

Masks in School

Facemasks are now needed in all indoor communal areas. It is important that everyone does this in order to reduce the risk of transmission, not just to our own students and staff but to the many vulnerable family members who are part of our school community.

 $\textbf{Headteacher:} \ Mr \ S \ Evans$

The Priory Pembroke Academy, Croft Lane, Cherry Willingham, Lincoln LN3 4JP

Tel: 01522 751040 Email: generalenquiries@priorypembroke.co.uk www.priorypembroke.co.uk

The Priory Pembroke Academy is generalenquiries priorypembroke.co.uk



Masks are also needed on the school buses as per the national guidance.

The government has urged us all not to become complacent in our approach to COVID19. In school we will continue with the one way systems, staggered break, enhanced cleaning and the regular use of hand sanitiser.

It is also important that we all carry out the twice-weekly LFD tests. It is imperative that we report the results to the NHS and school. Everyone needs to be in a good routine of doing this.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child has any of the main COVID-19 symptoms (a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste), they should not attend school and should stay at home.

- You should arrange for them to get a PCR test and inform school of the test results.
- Your child should not attend school while you are waiting for test results, even if they are feeling better.
- If the test is negative, they should go to school as normal.
- If they test positive, they should continue to isolate and follow public health advice.

What happens if my child has been in contact with someone with COVID-19 symptoms?

Contact tracing and isolation: The current guidance on contact tracing and isolation remains in place. In addition to these, any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly and told to isolate.

If your child has been identified as a close contact, you will be advised that your child takes a PCR test.

They will not have to self-isolate, unless they have a positive PCR test result.

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. They do not need to isolate while awaiting the PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal. If none of the above applies, people should self-isolate as per the instructions from NHS Test and Trace.

Finally, thank you for your support and understanding during this challenging time. Our staff are available to assist in any way they can, so please do contact the academy by phone or email if you have any queries.

With best wishes

Mr S Evans <u>Headteacher</u>