

Queen Elizabeth High School

Update for Parents / Carers and Learners

7th September 2021



Dear Parent/Carer,

So far we have been very pleased with the uniform, equipment and approach to school displayed by the pupils. These play an important part in returning to normal operating and I would like to thank you all for the support you have shown. Diolch yn fawr.

Covid-19

You will be aware that, like many schools in the county, we have seen confirmed cases of Covid-19 already this term. That is to be expected, as society moves towards managing and living with this virus. However, in order to mitigate its effects, it is important that we work together. I would therefore like to remind all parents and carers of the steps they need to take if a case is suspected or confirmed. The Local Authority will also be writing to parents and carers and we will publish that letter on our website.

- If a pupil is showing any of the 'classic' symptoms of Covid-19 (a high temperature, new and prolonged cough or loss of taste/smell, he or she should not attend school. Please book a PCR test.
- We encourage all pupils to take LFT tests twice a week. If a test is positive, please book a PCR test. Do not attend school unless the PCR test is negative. Please let us know that you have received a positive LFT test.
- If a PCR test for a pupil is positive, please let the school know by emailing office@qehs.carms.sch.uk with a screenshot of the test result. The TTP service will contact you directly, but the pupil should self-isolate and not attend school until the date given by the TTP service.
- If your child is a close contact of a positive case, even within your own family, there is no need to self-isolate unless advised to by TTP. However, should you make a decision to self-isolate under those circumstances, we would support that decision.

Lateral Flow Testing

This is an increasingly important aspect of helping schools monitor infection and keeping covid out of school. You will have received a request from school for participation in the testing. Could I please encourage you to take school up on the offer of kits which will be provided free of charge from school on request. Pupils from Years 7 to 11 will need a parental permission note via Xpressions. Pupils in Years 12 and 13 can sign the consent form in school.

Flu vaccine

- Your son or daughter will soon be bringing home information from Public Health Wales regarding a nasal spray flu vaccine. **Please note that this is not a Covid-19 vaccination programme.**
- Involvement in the programme requires consent. Please read the information carefully and make your decisions based on the information provided.

Open evenings/parent and carer evenings

- We are in discussions with other schools and with the Local Authority to evaluate whether or not we can return to on-site events. In this context, we have delayed planned Year 7, 10 and 12 evenings until we have received the recommended guidance. At this stage, it looks more likely that we will need to use online platforms. Please see our website updates for further information.

May I thank you all again for your support. As ever, please continue to monitor the website for future updates.

Congratulations Storm

Congratulations to Storm Evans (yr11) who was selected to compete in the prestigious UK School Games in Loughborough over the weekend. She attained an excellent 5th position in the Discus competition in the U17 age category, throwing 33m, close to the winning throw of 36m! In addition, Storm won the "Spirit of the Games" Award out of the 360 athletes competing. Storm attained the Award not only for her performance on the field, but for helping others within the sport, being courteous, mature and a good ambassador. Really well-done Storm! All of our community at QEHS are very proud of your achievement and we wish you every success in the GB games Derby later this month, where Storm will be one of only two competitors representing Wales in the discus!

Reminders of Further Important Information

Additional Information

The school has undergone a rigorous risk assessment with the Local Authority. An abundance of hand washing and sanitising stations are available throughout the school and we recommend pupils use these on entry to school and throughout the day. Pupils will receive a full briefing to familiarise themselves with the new arrangements as part of their induction on their first day. Enhanced housekeeping arrangements are in place with frequently touched areas sanitised regularly throughout the day.

Test, Trace and Protect

The Local Authority have updated their guidance on what parents should do if their child is showing symptoms of COVID-19 or needs to self-isolate.

If your child becomes unwell or needs to self-isolate, please let the school know and report to the Local Authority by calling 0300 333 2222 or by emailing TTP@deltawellbeing.org.uk

For information on how to apply for a test for yourself or someone in your household with symptoms including children under 5s please visit the Welsh Government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

The information on isolation has changed. Please see the Welsh Government website for updated information below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolateand-what-to-do/>

Thank you for your continued support, of our school and our community.

Kind Regards,

Dave Williams
Headteacher