



Longsands Academy

Longsands Road, St Neots

Cambridgeshire, PE19 1LQ

Principal: Neil Owen

01480 353535

enquiries@astrea-longsands.org

www.astrea-longsands.org

7 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We have received a recommendation from Cambridgeshire Local Authority and the Director of Public Health to increase our Covid-19 measures. This is in response to a significant increase in cases in the local area. The recommendation has gone to all schools in Cambridgeshire, not just Longsands Academy.

The following measures are being strongly recommended:

- The reintroduction of face coverings for students and staff in indoor communal spaces (corridors etc) but not in classrooms.
- All visitors to schools wear face coverings in school buildings.

Therefore, from Monday 11 October, we are strongly recommending that (unless exempt) students wear a face covering when in indoor communal areas of the Academy, such as corridors. These should be removed once students reach their classroom. In addition, visitors to site will be asked to wear a face covering indoors.

These measures will remain in place until at least Friday 22 October (i.e. half term) at which point they will be reviewed by the Local Authority and Public Health England. We will communicate any decisions as soon as we are able.

The Local Authority has also asked us to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of twice weekly lateral flow testing. Please continue to ensure that results are reported to the academy and NHS using the links on the academy website. Positive lateral flow tests will require a follow up PCR test to confirm the result, again we ask that these be forwarded to the academy. Any student taking a PCR test following a positive lateral flow test should remain at home until they receive the result.

Our existing preventative measures, such as the provision of hand sanitiser, one-way system and ventilation in classrooms, remain in place. We are also working hard to make the school experience as 'normal' as we can for all students, therefore all practical lessons and enrichment clubs will continue.

Finally, as communicated at the end of last week please be aware that Covid-19 vaccinations are taking place on Wednesday 20 October for 12-15-year-olds for all those students for whom consent has been given.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mr N D Owen

Principal