

10 March 2021



# Ralph Allen School

Respect • Teamwork • Personal Best

Dear Parent/Carer,

Our return to school has been a welcome one but has not been without issues. The plan was to minimise disruption and reduce any potential for students having to self-isolate. However, even with testing in the week prior to our return and testing each morning, it has still been necessary to have to ask students to self-isolate. This is due to a positive test in their class. Public Health England guidance has changed slightly on our return. Contacts of the student with a positive test are identified within the year group, but this does not have to mean the whole year group.

We are so sorry that this has had to happen as the students have been so happy on their return. It is heart-breaking to have to send them home. Further testing of the students cannot exempt them from self-isolation and they will have to isolate for 10 days.

## Student work

In previous cases it was necessary to isolate the whole year group which resulted in all lessons switching to online. Unfortunately, this cannot take place now because the majority of the year group are still in school with their teacher. Instead, work will be posted on Microsoft Teams. The folder is called Self-isolation March 2021. Work will be signposted in this folder for students to work independently.

## Slight addition

While the above information is true, for those year 7 students in learning group 7 most of their lessons involve the whole class being isolated. This means that these lessons can be online. They will be scheduled on their Microsoft Teams calendar and will start on Friday.

The students have been fantastic, and this is not what anyone wants to happen. It is however a safety measure to keep the community safe, it is just very difficult for a few individuals.

I am ready for a time without Covid and restrictions and again apologise for the inconvenience. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

We very much look forward to seeing your children back at school on Monday 22 March.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A Greenhough'.

**Andy Greenhough**

**Headteacher**

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