

## **UTTOXETER** LEARNING TRUST

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Uttoxeter Learning Trust Thomas Alleyne's High School Dove Bank Uttoxeter Staffordshire ST14 8DU

29 November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

## **Uttoxeter Learning Trust (COVID-19)**

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. As you will be aware Public Health England and the Government have announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK.

Therefore, there are a number of measures that our schools will be implementing to protect our pupils and staff. Face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings by staff, visitors, and students in year 7 and above, unless they are exempt. Pupils in year 7 or above should continue to wear face coverings on public and dedicated school transport, unless they are exempt. Whilst the government is not insisting that pupils in years 5 and 6 are required to wear face coverings, the Trust would encourage wherever possible those pupils in our middle schools to do so if they can.

We again continue to encourage you to closely monitor the health of your children as we know you have been doing. Thank you for continuing to test at home using Lateral Flow Tests. In the event of a positive test and or the main symptoms associated with COVID-19 it is essential that a PCR test is completed and that pupils isolate until the result is known. 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 applicable.

We also ask families to consider attendance at large events in the coming weeks which may pose increased risk of transmission and ensure that pupils that are isolating as trace contracts do not accompany siblings on their way to school. Once any child returns to school any relating absence would need to be notified to the school immediately and would again be recorded as authorised due to the exceptional circumstances.

Our primary concern is the wellbeing of our pupils and wider community, and we will be monitoring students closely to ensure that any problems are identified. The Headteachers will communicate with you in greater detail as to the arrangements for your child in the coming weeks, depending on any review by the Government, including our return in January.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you again for your support and hope that all our families and staff have restful break at the end of the Autumn term.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Sarah Clark (CEO Uttoxeter Learning Trust)