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**Cottingham High School  
and Sixth Form College**



Dear Parent/Carer

**29 November 2021**

As you will be aware, on Saturday 27 November the Prime Minister held a press conference where he announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK. The new measures are to be introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the variant while the Government gathers more information.

Following this announcement, schools have received further guidance from the Department of Education that face coverings should once again be worn in communal areas in secondary schools by staff, visitors and students, unless they are exempt.

Students should continue to wear face coverings on public transport and on any dedicated school transport, including travel on the school minibuses or the Consortium coach.

I am writing to all parents and carers to confirm that we will ask all of our young people, staff and any visitors to support this guidance from today (Monday 29 November) wherever possible, unless exempt. To support this, we will endeavor to provide a face covering from our stock to any young person who has not brought in their own today; the expectation is that they would bring their own from Tuesday unless exempt.

Please can I ask that you discuss this new guidance with your child. In addition to sharing this information, we will also remind them of the importance of sanitising hands each time they remove their face covering and that these should be stored in a plastic bag when not being worn and disposed of correctly.

Last year, when face coverings were previously required in schools our students responded quickly and maturely and I have no doubt that they will do so again.

### **Lateral Flow Testing**

In addition to a return to face coverings, can I also take the opportunity to once again encourage all young people to continue to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests. We have recently sent tests home and will continue to do so however, should your child have missed the latest distribution, or should they need further tests, they will be able to collect one from their form tutor if they ask.

Can I thank you for your support once again as the information we all receive continues to evolve. We have come a long way and we have seen the benefit of this in school this term, nevertheless, I am sure that we all have one eye on Christmas now and therefore are keen to do all we can to ensure we can enjoy this to the full. Take care and keep safe.

Yours sincerely

Loz Wilson  
Headteacher

