

Fulford School

Fulfordgate, Heslington Lane, Fulford, York. YO10 4FY T: 01904 633300 E: office@fulford.york.sch.uk www.fulford.york.sch.uk

22nd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Lateral Flow Tests

Last week I told you that we had finalised our lateral flow testing facility in school. This was set to provide daily lateral flow tests to pupils who were contacts of confirmed cases of COVID 19. Earlier this week, schools received a letter from Gavin Williamson, the Secretary of State for Education informing us that this policy had been paused whilst further investigations were made into the appropriateness of its use. Until we get clarification from Mr Williamson, pupils who are identified as contacts will need to self-isolate.

Options at Year 11 and Year 9

This week we have been meeting with Year 11 pupils to support them in their application for sixth form and college. It has been great to hear their plans for the future. Tuesday 26th January is Year 11 parents evening. This will happen online. Appointments will be for 5 minutes only. The software we are using will end the meeting five minutes after it has started. Staff have no way of extending appointments. To get the best out of the evening it is important that teachers and parents keep focussed on how pupils can progress and build on their knowledge and understanding. I must stress again that we have no certainty about how GCSE grades will be generated and teachers are not in a position to let you know what the teacher assessed grade will be. Mr Rosie sent a separate letter this week explaining about the consultation that is taking place around alternatives to GCSE exams and how you can contribute.

We also hosted our Year 9 options evening. We had over 200 families join the meeting. The options booklet and information on what happens next is on the website. We are always available to support decision making. What came over really clearly was the need to study a broad and balanced set of subjects. Pupils should be ambitious and think about how their choices will keep future pathways as accessible as possible.

Remote Learning

We are interested to know how online learning is going from the perspective of staff, pupils and parents. Please take some time to answer the 4 questions in the attached questionnaire.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=evsowXc9NES-DBbNPA5Z4oEo2iTCVhRMIX0nnCnbvUNUM1ISRUNUMVUwNUVMV0YyM0JMSDNaOEcxWS4u

We very much want to encourage parents and carers to support their children in their learning. However, when direct teaching is happening, please do not engage the teacher in conversation. Only pupils should be participating in the lesson. If your child needs any extra support, please contact the school through the pastoral system in the first instance.

I hope you and your family remain well and safe.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Lewis Head Teacher

