



**Principal:** Dr Katharine Vincent

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for all your support for the school so far this term. Please find below some important updates.

### Face-masks

Students and staff are required to wear face-masks in lessons as well as in corridors and other parts of the building, unless they are exempt for specific reasons. Please remind your child to bring a mask to school. If they are exempt, please ensure your child has a badge, card or lanyard to show this.

### Lateral flow testing

Thank you for all your support for on-site testing. Any students who have not yet had a test within the on-site testing centre will be offered this next week. This has enabled us to identify a small number of cases, which is important in relation to minimising the spread of infection within school.

Links to the online consent forms are as follows:

KS4: <https://forms.office.com/r/rDSgwyrrpSn>

KS5: <https://forms.office.com/r/9iPYRHeZ4L>

Please ensure you are continuing to test twice weekly at home. Any students who are a close contact of a confirmed case, or anyone with a confirmed case within the household, are encouraged to test every day for 7 days while continuing to attend school as normal. Students and staff should report results immediately online: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

### Changes to requirements for confirmatory PCR tests

From 11<sup>th</sup> January, the government are temporarily removing the requirement for a confirmatory PCR test following a positive lateral flow test result. Anyone who receives a positive lateral flow test should assume they are infectious and isolate in line with government guidance. They can then return to school or work once they have two negative test results 24 hours apart after day 6.

### January 2022 technical and vocational exams

The January series of exams starts next week. Please ensure you check your child's exam timetable and help them to arrive on time for their exams. These exams contribute towards students' final grades and it is important that students take them seriously. They should be revising at home, as well as at school, using revision materials provided by their teachers.



## Open Evening – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January

Owing to the current high levels of infection risk, the Open Evening planned for Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January will be moved online. We believe this is the safest thing to do, given the number of students from different schools who would be attending the event. The Open Evening will start at 4.3pm; please encourage current Year 11 students to attend and please share the date with any friends or family who you know are interested in joining the school next year.

Thank you for all your ongoing support for the school, which is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K Vincent

**Principal**



## Staying Safe at Mulberry UTC - January 2022

### Guide for Parents



#### TESTING AND SELF ISOLATION

Students will be offered one on-site LFD test when they return to school. Students will also be provided with packs of LFD tests to take home. Students are advised to take these home tests every 2-4 days at home.

If a student tests positive from an LFD test they should self-isolate and immediately seek a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR test is taken within two days and is negative, they can return to school.

**It is now possible for students to return to school after 7 days if they have received two negative LFD results on day 6 and day 7 of their isolation and they do not have a high temperature.**

#### CLOSE CONTACT

Students are not required to self-isolate if they believe they are a close contact of someone who has tested positive. Instead, they are advised to take an LFD test every day for 7 days and attend school as normal, unless they test positive. Tests can be requested from the school.



#### HYGIENE AND VENTILATION

Classrooms will be kept well ventilated with windows and doors open. We encourage students to regularly wash their hands and will provide hand sanitizer in all classrooms and around the school building.



#### VACCINATION

Students are able to take up a vaccine. 16-18 year olds can now access the booster vaccine.



#### HYGIENE AND VENTILATION

Classrooms will be kept well ventilated with windows and doors open. We encourage students to regularly wash their hands and will provide hand sanitizer in all classrooms and around the school building.



#### REPORTING RESULTS

If your child tests positive please notify the school as soon as possible and send the confirmation email to [info@mulberryutc.org](mailto:info@mulberryutc.org). A member of the pastoral team will give the family a welfare call and explain the arrangements for home learning during isolation.