

Tuesday 16th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Covid Cases Update – Rota for Remote Learning

I should never have jinxed it in my last letter! I shared with you last week the number of cases among students and the additional measures in place to help reduce the risk of infection transmission.

Student numbers this week remain broadly similar – the highest number of cases are in Years 7 and 8, with very few across the remaining year groups.

Unfortunately, cases amongst staff have risen considerably, such that I have needed to consider further measures to ensure the operational safety, pastoral care and quality of education that can be delivered with reduced staff numbers.

We have started this week with staff absence at 20%, with supply staff agencies unable to send through possible replacements. This has created a significant demand on remaining staff that cannot be sustained.

For this reason, I am writing to inform parents/carers that a rota system is being introduced for Weds-Fri this week to help manage the current challenges and ensure that we have staff capacity for students on site.

Only Years 7-9 are affected, with the expectation that each of these groups will work at home remotely for one day, as follows:

| Year Group | Remote Learning Day |
|------------|---------------------|
| 7 | Wednesday |
| 8 | Thursday |
| 9 | Friday |

Students working remotely can access work set over MS TEAMS using their normal log-in details, and a reminder of working remotely can be found on our website here: [Remote Learning - Oak Academy \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](https://www.oak-academy.co.uk/remote-learning)

Years 10 and 11 continue to attend as normal.

I will continue to monitor this situation closely, with a review and decision about any rota for next week being made this Thursday. This will enable me to write to you in good time ahead of any changes we need to make from Monday.

I know that this disruption is not something anyone would have wanted, but I hope you agree that it is the right thing to do in balancing the needs to keep Oak operational as well as adopt measures that help reduce the risk of infection transmission.

As ever, do not hesitate in contacting me should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Burgas

Principal

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