



22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to advise you that, over the course of this week, 88 members of our school community have tested positive for COVID-19 on a PCR test. The cases are spread across the 1750 staff and students in school: four Year 7s, thirteen Year 8s, thirty-one Year 9s, fifteen Year 10s, thirteen Year 11s, four Year 12s, two Year 13s and six members of staff. I know that you may find this concerning, but please be reassured that all decisions regarding this have been made based on the advice from the Local Health Protection Team.

We are strongly encouraging all students to continue to take part in home testing over the half term holiday, unless your child has tested positive in the past 90 days. In particular, we would ask students to take a test on Sunday evening (or Monday morning), before returning to school on Monday 1 November. This is so that we can limit the number of asymptomatic students circulating within our school community.

Education and childcare settings no longer have to conduct routine contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case – or in the case of children – the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts and determine if any self-isolation is required.

Students under the age of 18 and 6 months do not have to self-isolate, even if they have been in contact with a positive case of COVID-19, unless they are showing any of the following symptoms of COVID-19:

- a high temperature – this means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back.
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

Please be vigilant and if your child shows any of these symptoms, they should not attend school. They should be tested for COVID-19 using a PCR test as soon as possible you must follow government [guidance](#) about self-isolation, including test and trace. If you are concerned about your child's health, please refer to the NHS 111 website or telephone NHS 111 or your GP.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>

The safety and welfare of all our staff and children remains our top priority. If you would like to speak to someone, or have any further questions, please telephone the school to speak to your child's Year Manager in the first instance, or email [info@princehenrys.co.uk](mailto:info@princehenrys.co.uk) and mark it for the attention of Mr Temple, Assistant Headteacher.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs J Sheriff**  
**Executive Headteacher**