

4<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – Covid statement 9  
The Alternative School Group

Following advice from Public Health England, the school has been asked to resume testing due to rising numbers of Covid variants in certain areas of Lancashire, in particular the Delta variant. All staff are testing twice a week and pupils are advised to do the same. This can be done in school or we can provide testing kits for these to be done at home. Previous consent given to administer these tests remains in place.

The advice is that testing should continue throughout the school holidays. We ask that everyone takes a test before they return to school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

All of the schools in the TAS Group will still follow the same strict Covid measures that have previously been in place. Thermometers will be used to take temperatures on arrival, hand gel is available all around school, surfaces are being regularly wiped down and it is **COMPULSORY** for face masks or visors to be worn around all areas of school.

In the Burnley and Pendle area, there are pop up vaccination centres should anyone over the age of 18, and who is eligible, want the Covid vaccination. Those without any symptoms of Covid are being encouraged to do regular rapid tests. These can be ordered online, free of charge, or local chemists can provide the free tests. Pupils will be given free test kits in school. For anyone with symptoms of Covid are advised to book in for a PCR test at a testing centre. Those who live in an area of high risk of the Delta strain may be asked to go to a specific test centre whereby the testing can identify the strain of Covid more specifically.

Attendance in school is a priority and it will be recorded and monitored closely, along with safeguarding, as per our policy and we will continue to update schools and agencies at the end of each week with both progress and attendance. Any safeguarding concerns will be passed onto relevant people immediately. Our next review day is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

Our Year 11 pupils will remain in school until the last day of the school year (22<sup>nd</sup> July) as per their timetable. It is important that they still attend school as they are working on qualifications and English and Maths exams. Other year groups will be working on BTEC PSD and BTEC Sport and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

If you have any queries or questions, please email your head teacher and they will come back to you as soon as they can.

Thank you for your continued support during these unprecedented times.

Warm regards and stay safe,

The TAS team