



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

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Head Master: Mr G A Wright M.A. (Hons) FRSA

13th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

With the country moving into another period of lockdown, I appreciate that this brings additional challenges for families as it does for school life. Thank you for your efforts to communicate your son's COVID-19 related absences swiftly to school and via the correct channels (agsbadmin@agsb.co.uk). The guidance (dated 4 November) for schools is no different than before half term in respect of our core business. However, in the light of government guidance, we have made some temporary changes, for the period of lockdown, to the operation of school life which I have outlined below. Unfortunately, we are now unable to offer internal House Sports Competitions on Saturday mornings.

We are extremely pleased with the stringent Covid safety and hygiene measures that we have implemented since September. It is important to note that we have already been rigorously implementing the additional government guidance as a result of being in a Tier 3 area, and as such, the steps between Tier 3 and 'National Lockdown 2' reflect little changes in our already very robust operating procedures and Risk Assessments (RA) which we continue to review and refine.

Key points to take note:

- Our updated RA will soon be shared on the School Website.
- Face covering update - Face coverings must now be worn in 'all indoor communal areas' with the exception of the classroom. This includes: corridors, bubbled common rooms, Private Study, canteens (when not actually eating), formal outdoor queueing areas (for DT, Science and PE lessons).
- If any member of the household displays symptoms requiring a COVID test, the whole household must isolate until the test is returned. Isolation means that they should not leave the family home.
- As the community R number continues to be high, we ask all families to err on the side of caution when deciding if a pupil requires a COVID 19 test. Early, decisive isolation and testing can reduce substantially the number of staff and pupils that are forced to isolate for 14 days as a close contact of a confirmed case.

I have unfortunately received a number of complaints from the local community regarding the conduct of our students when they are 'out and about' in Hale and Altrincham. Our students must remember at all times that the country is in Lockdown and many members of the local community are living with heightened anxiety on a daily basis due to the pandemic. Any students found to be flouting government guidance while in or out of School can expect a severe sanction.

Yesterday we received some good news from the Department for Education. You will be aware that we had to cancel after school extra-curricular sport last week. After a change in the guidance, after school sport (within year group bubbles) at AGSB can continue from **Monday 16th November**.

I wish you and your families well for the weekend ahead.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "G A Wright". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Mr G A Wright
Head Master

Guidance from Trafford on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19

National restrictions begin in England from 5 November

New guidance for all from tomorrow: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19#education-settings>

More evidence has emerged that shows there is a very low risk of children becoming very unwell from COVID-19, even for children with existing health conditions. Most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow this advice. Speak to your GP or specialist clinician, if you have not already done so, to understand whether your child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable.

Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend school while this advice is in place. Your school will make appropriate arrangements for you to be able to continue your education at home. Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend school.