

7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

I want to wish you and your family a very happy new year and I hope and trust you got some rest over the Christmas period. Now that we have started term two, I want to update you on the arrangements for the first part of the new term.

### **REVISED COVID-19 CONTINGENCY PLAN-ATTACHED**

You will be aware from media reports that the Omicron variant of COVID-19 is having a significant impact on all schools across Northern Ireland. Ensuring safe staffing levels in most schools has been made extremely challenging due to a significant shortage of substitute teachers. Whilst these difficulties were present in term one, the new Omicron strand of COVID-19 brings additional pressures given the very infectious nature of this variant. Considering these factors, the school has revised and updated our contingency plans which are detailed below.

**Parents are strongly advised to read and familiarise themselves with the content of the plans and be aware that in the event of the school being unable to meet or maintain safe staffing levels the procedures detailed in the document will be enacted. Whilst the school will endeavour to communicate as early as possible, this may, unavoidably, be at very short notice (i.e., the evening before).**

I want to stress that **every effort will be made to avoid such situations** and these plans will only be deployed as a last resort, however, given the current situation it is likely the school will have to take action at some point over the course of January and/or February if we cannot meet safe staffing levels.

**Plan A: Normal school operations.** All pupils in school with current mitigations in place. Internal and substitute teachers covering classes.

#### **IF STAFFING LEVELS BECOME UNSAFE**

**Plan B: Remote Learning for a KS3 Year Group on rotation.**

To maintain examination classes, *a KS3 (8, 9 & 10) Year Group will move to remote learning for a short period of two days on a rotational basis (if required). If the plan is enacted, the first group on the rotation will be Year 10.*

*In practice this would mean that Year 10 will learn remotely for two days, then return to school. Year 9 will then learn remotely for two days (if required) and return to school. Year 8 will then follow the same pattern if required.*

**Plan C: Remote Learning for 2 or more year groups at time.** Beginning with KS3, but potentially including KS4 and KS5. Year groups may be required to learn remotely until staffing returns to a safe level in the college.

*Parents will be informed via text message and ParentApp if Plan B or C is enacted and of the exact timeframe each year group will be learning remotely and their return to school date.*

The arrangements for Teaching and Learning are outlined within the plan below. Please be aware that teaching and support staff will be extremely stretched in these circumstances and your patience will be appreciated as staff try to balance face-to-face and remote learning as well as supporting classes of absent colleagues.

## REPORTING A CASE OF COVID-19

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19 it is important that you inform the school. At present a positive LFT result is sufficient to confirm COVID-19. There are also changes to the isolation periods which are outlined below. You can report a positive result by telephoning the school office, or by using our online reporting form outside of office hours.

<http://www.sperrincollege.com/positive-case-contact-form.html>

## LATERAL FLOW TESTING PROGRAMME

New Lateral Flow testing kits have been distributed to pupils who are already signed up to the programme early next week. If any parent wishes to opt into the scheme at anytime you can do so by simply completing the following online form:

<http://www.sperrincollege.com/lateral-flow-testing.html>

## FACECOVERINGS

All post-primary pupils are required to wear a face-covering in classrooms and on school transport, unless medically exempt.

## CONTACT DETAILS

Parents are once again advised to ensure the school holds the correct contact details for both telephone and email addresses. The ParentAPP and the school text service will be used for all communications.

## UNIFORM POLICY

Given the outside nature of our school building and with the increased use of ventilation as a mitigating factor against COVID-19, pupils are strongly advised to ensure they are well prepared for changeable weather conditions. The expectation is that pupils adhere to our uniform policy. **The school jumper is a compulsory item** and should be worn. This will avoid the need for any additional garments. A plain navy or black coat (no logos) is encouraged and should be worn over the blazer. The school scarf and a plain navy or black hat are also encouraged.

## OPEN NIGHT EVENTS

The school will operate small group taster tours for prospective pupils on the evening and afternoon of Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Details of how to book this event will be published on our social media platforms and our website early next week. In addition, the school will host a live Open Event Webinar from 7.00pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022. We encourage you to share our Open Event materials with those you feel may be interested.

As per our published calendar, to accommodate these events, the school will be closed to pupils on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January from 12 noon and closed to pupils entirely on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January, and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

## YEAR 12 -14 REPORTS

Year 12 -14 reports will be issued to parents on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 via the ParentAPP.

## EXTERNAL GCSE EXAMINATION MODULES

Year 11 Travel and Tourism examination will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Results will be released for the recent GCSE English, Mathematics and Science modules on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

GCSE Science Modules for Year 11 and Year 12 pupils will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

#### PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS - SCHOOL CLOUD

The remaining Parent Teacher Meetings will take place in term two on the dates below. An invitation letter and booking details will be provided to parents prior to each the meeting.

Date	Time	Year Group
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	4.00-6.00	Year 13
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2022	4.00-6.30	Year 9
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	12.45-3.30	Year 10
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	12.45-3.30	Year 8

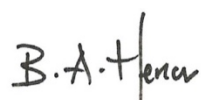
#### OVERVIEW OF KEY DATES IN TERM TWO - PART 1

Detailed below are the events and dates for Term Two.

Date	Event	Additional Information
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	12 noon finish for pupils	Open Event - Taster Tour 1
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	No pupils required in school	Open Night - Taster Tour 2
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2022	School Closed	
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Year 13 PTM 4.00-6.00	Meeting via School Cloud
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2022	Year 9 PTM 4.00-6.30	Meeting via School Cloud
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	12 noon finish for all pupils Year 10 PTM 12.45-3.30	Meeting Via School Cloud
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February (Inclusive)	Mid-Term Break School Closed	
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	School Closed Public Holiday	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	No pupils in school Year 8 PTM 12.45-3.30	Meeting via School Cloud

I hope this will provide you with enough information for planning purposes. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you require any clarification on any information detailed in this communication.

Yours Sincerely,



B A Heron

Principal

P U R S U I N G   E X C E L L E N C E   T O G E T H E R

**SPERRIN INTEGRATED COLLEGE**  
**COVID-19 CONTINGENCY PLAN - PARENTAL GUIDE**  
**TERM 2 | 2022**



**CONTEXT**

As we start Term 2 of 2022 parents will be aware that there are unprecedented pressures on all aspects of school life for pupils and teaching and non-teaching staff. Ensuring safe staffing levels in most schools within Northern Ireland has been made extremely challenging due to a significant shortage of substitute teachers and the on-going impact of the pandemic. Whilst these difficulties were present in term one, the new Omicron variant of COVID-19 brings additional pressures given the very infectious nature of this variant. Considering these factors, the school has revised and updated our Contingency plan which is detailed below.

Parents are strongly advised to read and familiarise themselves with the content of the plan and be aware that **in the event of the school being unable to meet or maintain safe staffing levels the procedures detailed below will be enacted. Whilst the school will endeavour to give as early communication as possible, this may be at very short notice.**

ISSUE	ACTION	COMMUNICATION
Pupil with a positive COVID-19 result or isolating <b>KS3</b>	If well enough to do so, pupils complete contingency work on Google classroom.	Parents inform the school either by telephone or COVID-19 report form.
Pupil with a positive COVID-19 result or isolating <b>KS4</b>	If well enough to do so, pupils complete bespoke work on Google classroom based on GCSE specifications.	Parents inform the school either by telephone or COVID-19 report form.
Pupil with a positive COVID-19 result or isolating <b>KS5</b>	If well enough to do so, pupils complete bespoke work on Google classroom based on AS/A Level specifications.  Pupils join classes at normal timetable times via Google Meet.	Parents inform the school either by telephone or COVID-19 report form.
School not able to meet or maintain safe staffing levels.	A KS3 Year group or groups will be identified for home/remote learning for a short 2-day period on a rotational basis.  The rotational schedule will be as follows: <b>1: Year 10</b> <b>2: Year 9</b> <b>3: Year 8</b>	Letter sent via Parent App and text message.  <b>Parents are advised that this could be at very short notice -i.e., the evening or day before</b>

School not able to provide full catering service.	Pupils with an entitlement to FSM will be provided with a drink, soup, and sandwiches at lunchtime only.  All other pupils will be required to bring a packed lunch.	Letter sent via Parent App and text message.
Transport providers unable to provide school transport	Parents are advised to have alternative transport arrangements in place.	The transport providers will endeavour to communicate any disruption via their social media platforms but this maybe at <b><u>very short notice. i.e., the morning or afternoon schedules.</u></b>  If the school has prior notice from the transport providers, the school will communicate with parents via Parent APP or Text message.

## NEW COVID-19 GUIDANCE ON ISOLATION PERIODS



COVID-19 Guidance (From 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2022)	
<b>No COVID Symptoms</b>	<b>COVID Symptoms</b>
Take a LFT twice weekly (Wednesday and Sunday) or before higher risk activities	Self-isolate and take a LFT and book a PCR test
↓	↓
My LFT test is POSITIVE	My test is positive
↓	↓
Self-isolate for 10 days after the day you took the test	Self-isolate for 10 days after the day you took the test
↓	↓
You can stop self-isolating from <b>day 7</b> with <b>2 negative LFT</b> results taken at least 24 hours apart	You can stop self-isolating from <b>day 7</b> with <b>2 negative LFT</b> results taken at least 24 hours apart
↓	↓
The earliest date you can take the first LFT is day 6.	The earliest date you can take the first LFT is day 6.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

Parents and pupils are advised that the following arrangements will be made in the various scenarios below:

SITUATION (PUPIL RELATED)	GUIDANCE ON POTENTIAL ACTION
Pupil ill (non-covid)	Normal catch up on return to school
Pupil/small number of pupils ill with Covid (well enough to work from home)	Contingency work for KS3 - note in stream - if you are off KS4 - contingency or bespoke work KS5 - At teachers' discretion: Google meets from classroom
Pupil/small number of pupils ill with Covid (not well enough to work from home)	Normal catchup on return to school
Class/Year group sent home for Remote Learning	<p>Pupils follow their normal timetabled subjects for the Remote Learning Day.</p> <p>If the Learning Tutor is in school: At <b>9.00</b> Form Class register on Google Meets - All pupils must attend.</p> <p><b>Teaching and Learning:</b></p> <p><b>Teachers will: Post work</b> throughout the school day .  <b>Pupils will: Complete the work</b> in their exercise books and there will be no requirement to upload work onto Google classroom.</p> <p><b>Teachers and Pupils will: Revisit and follow-up</b> on completed work /content to ensure understanding in the next face-to face lesson.</p> <p>Should there be a delay in work being posted pupils should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Revisit and revise My Maths activities (passwords available if lost from office) and</li> <li>2. Quiz on Accelerated Reader and</li> <li>3. Complete Reading Activity and</li> <li>4. Complete Revision or Study prior work or</li> <li>5. Complete Contingency work</li> </ol> <p>Pupils with SEN will be contacted via the Google classroom by their teaching assistant who will offer support and guidance throughout the day.</p>