

4th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Please see an update letter with regard recent changes to Covid-19 guidance and to provide some information around the activities we have put in place to show our support to the people of Ukraine.

### **Face Masks**

Due to the reduction of COVID -19 cases within the Salford area and within our school, we have taken the decision to remove the wearing of face masks. From Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 face masks are not required to be worn in the academy but we will allow students and staff to wear a mask if they wish to. We will explain this to students before the end of this week. Thank-you to everyone for your support in putting this in place, the students have been fantastic and it has helped to keep our rates relatively low and keep the whole school open. Bubble zones and sanitising still continue to take place.

### **Asymptomatic Testing**

Both staff and students are no longer required to take twice weekly asymptomatic Lateral Flow Tests. A PCR/LFT is **only** recommended if your child is displaying COVID-19 symptoms but this must be taken at home. If you require a LFT please contact school and we are happy to supply.

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are a recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

### **Positive Cases & Self Isolation**

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 they should not attend school within their infectious period. They should take an LFT test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these test results are negative, they can return to school as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. Close contacts are not required to self-isolate unless of course they test positive.

All of the above is subject to change and we will continue to be advised by Public Health England and follow government guidance. If there are any significant changes we will inform you of this.

### **Crisis in Ukraine**

I thought it would be useful to let you know what activities and support Oasis MediacityUK have put in place to support those effected by the Ukraine/Russia conflict.

We are taking extra care to look out and support those effected. We have delivered assemblies to all students giving advice on how to support those affected by the conflict and how best to cope with anxiety when reading/watching the news. All staff have been given advice on how to support students and facilitate positive conversations about the conflict. Prayers are being offered in the community Hub. At 10am today all staff/students took part in a Trust wide vigil with 1000's of other staff, students at community to members in support of the people of Ukraine. This was an opportunity for us all to stand together with the people of Ukraine for peace and hope, and to think through the practical steps that we might take to support people directly.

As a school community, we are also donating blankets and food parcels to the Polish Integration Support Centre who will send items on our behalf. We would also like to make a very practical response. If every one of us (including all our children and young people) raises £2 each, we could contribute over £70k to support those who need help. We will donate the money raised to the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain – who we will work in partnership with to ensure this support gets to the right place most quickly. They are funding a number of accredited and registered Ukrainian charities to provide medicines, food and critical services to support the most vulnerable to overcome the consequences and trauma of war. The money we raise will also be used to support the work of refugee charities in Poland, Moldova, Hungary etc. If you would like to make a donation, you can do so by visiting <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/OasisUkraine>

Should you require any further information with regards any of the above information please do not hesitate to contact us on 0161 8866500.

Thank you for your continued support

Best wishes,

Mr McEvoy

Principal