

Monday 3rd January 2022

Dear students and parents

First of all can I wish everyone a Happy New Year and I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. We are very much looking forward to having all our students back onsite for the start of term tomorrow on Tuesday 4th January.

Yesterday morning the government updated their Covid guidance for schools, colleges and universities in response to increased cases caused by the Omicron variant. The main change is that from the start of term all students are required to wear face masks in class, unless they are exempt. We have therefore updated our Covid FAQs and Risk Assessment to reflect this new guidance and both can be found on the college website [here](#).

Our community has shown time and time again incredible resilience during this pandemic and I know our students will support this new requirement to help maintain as safe a college environment as possible. Can I also please remind all students that they should:

- Take an LFD test the evening or the morning before attending college for the first time in the spring term
- Continue to test regularly using LFDs twice a week (the latest guidance makes clear this now includes anyone who has tested positive for Covid previously as soon as they complete their isolation period)

We all hope brighter times are around the corner and that the need for extra restrictions will be short-lived. I will be writing again this week with my usual start of term newsletter including exciting updates about the college for the coming months.

Kind regards

Dan Lodge
Principal