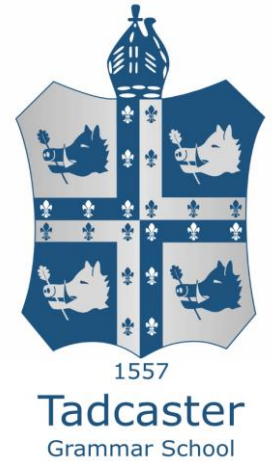


# Be Your Best Self

2nd November 2021



Dear Parents, Carers & Students,

Welcome back to half-term 2 which is feeling very autumnal, especially as the clocks have recently gone back. It's wonderful to see the school fully open again.

Since I last wrote to you on 22nd October 2021, all schools in North Yorkshire have been contacted by the Director of Public Health (North Yorkshire) and the Director of Children & Young People's Service with a general [update](#) for parents and carers about the pandemic within the county and measures schools may need to consider in order stay fully open for all students.

We are still experiencing some confirmed positive Covid-19 cases within our school community and alongside the control measures detailed on page 2, will be continuing to work in accordance with Public Health advice by:

- Reinforcing the importance of good hand and respiratory hygiene;
- Maximising ventilation in classrooms and other shared spaces (whilst allowing students to wear outdoor clothing if required);
- Limiting visitors to the school;
- Minimising large student gatherings;
- Dynamically assessing whether educational trips and residential visits should go ahead.

Please be advised that when a school does experience cases of Covid-19 within its community, it receives direct and bespoke input from the Public Health team, which includes advice on isolation and testing measures to be taken for other family members. This *can* include PCR testing for siblings and household members and recommendations for daily lateral flow testing while waiting for PCR test results. In some circumstances, the advice may also include children to not attend until the results of tests are known. Each circumstance is assessed individually and may differ from previous or other local cases.



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Thank you as always for your continued support of the school.  
Kind regards,

**Andrew Parkinson**  
**Headteacher**

## Covid-19 Control Measures In School (no content added since 22nd October 2021)

Our key priority is to work within the bounds of the current government guidance for schools to ensure all students and staff are safe and supported whilst ensuring the school stays fully open.

### HOW FAMILIES CAN SUPPORT THE SCHOOL TO REMAIN FULLY OPEN

#### Face Coverings

Thank you again for your support with our move to wearing face coverings in communal areas, in classrooms and on shared transport. **We are still noticing that a significant number of students are not arriving at school with their own face covering.** We cannot provide face coverings as a matter of routine in school and are looking to families to support us with this. This is an essential control measure to help minimise the risk of Covid-19 transmission in school and on school transport.

After taking advice from the North Yorkshire Public Health Team, please note that we will be continuing to strongly support the wearing of face coverings in school (communal areas and classrooms) until at least Friday 12th November 2021.

#### Home COVID-19 Testing

Asymptomatic Covid-19 lateral flow device testing should continue at home on a Wednesday and Sunday evening. Positive results should be reported immediately via the school website [HERE](#).

Following a positive PCR result please email [attendance@tgs.starmat.uk](mailto:attendance@tgs.starmat.uk) with the date your child can return to school. This date is the one that track and trace inform you when your child can come out of self isolation.

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### The 12 to 15 year old vaccination programme

NHS England is now offering 12 to 15 year olds the opportunity to get their COVID-19 vaccine out-of-school, such as through vaccination centres. This offer will run in parallel to the in-school vaccination programme\*.

We are informed that parents of children aged 12 to 15 will receive a letter from the NHS with more information on the vaccination programme, including information about how to book an appointment out-of-school, if this option is preferred.

\*At this time, we are still awaiting contact from the NHS concerning the timeline for the in-school Covid-19 vaccination programme and details about the school's role in facilitating it.