



# RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

Challenge • Support • Flourish

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Head Teacher: Mr M. McGarry MA, PGCE, NPQH

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are well at this time.

I wanted to write to advise you of some of the changes the Department of Education have issued in relation to the pandemic. As you will be aware, infection rates across the country now seem to be in decline. Consequently masks in school will once again start to be phased out. As from today (20<sup>th</sup> January) they are no longer required in classrooms and from next Thursday (27<sup>th</sup> January) they will not be required in communal spaces. This has been explained to the students. I recognise that this is not to everyone's preference and some families have particular health concerns. In light of this, should your child wish to continue to wear a mask in school for the weeks ahead, this is perfectly acceptable. Thankfully, infection rates have once again remained quite low at school. Our testing programme was successful at the start of term and I thoroughly believe that twice weekly testing at home has helped to keep COVID out of school as much as possible. I would be very grateful if you could continue with this for some time to come. Your child will be issued with a new pack of home tests next week and should you require any more, please get in touch at the main school office. As always all of your support with this is much appreciated.

As the new term progresses, we enter into a crucial phase for all of our students. Getting everyone re-focused on education and outcomes for the future remains a high priority for everyone here at school. It is looking increasingly likely that public examinations will go ahead in a more 'normal' fashion this year. In the coming weeks, the exam boards will issue final guidance and support materials for students sitting exams in Y11 and Y13. Your child's teacher will of course go through all of this and ensure they are as well prepared as possible when this guidance is published. For students in Y11, we have started our programme of preparation and support for the Sixth Form, all of the details can be found on our website: <https://www.range.sefton.sch.uk/sixth-form/6-prospectus/> Similarly, it's an important time for our Y9 students who have now started the process of their option choices for GCSE. Following my letter last week, I would encourage you to take the time to listen to and watch our presentation at <https://www.range.sefton.sch.uk/key-information/year-9-options-2021/> As always, if you have any questions in relation to any of this, please get in touch with the relevant colleague at school.

Finally, attendance remains a huge priority for all of our students. As we hopefully move to a stage where COVID is a thing of the past, it's vitally important to get everyone's attendance back to our target of at least 95%. There is a significant amount of research to prove that there is a direct link between excellent school attendance and excellent outcomes. Again, you can find more information on our website at: <https://www.range.sefton.sch.uk/key-information/attendance/>

Thank you for your support in everything we do at Range in ensuring that the school is the best place it can be for all of our students and staff.

With very best wishes for 2022.

Mr M. McGarry  
Headteacher