



30th November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you with a number of key health and safety messages. With your support and understanding, we can do our utmost to keep Rhosnesni families safe.

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation – Face Masks

This morning, I was contacted by Welsh Government. It has been announced that:

‘All staff and learners in our secondary schools, colleges and universities should now wear face coverings while indoors where physical distancing cannot be maintained. This is a temporary, precautionary measure that will be in place for the remaining weeks of term at which point the position will be reviewed. This should come into effect in all settings as soon as possible.’

Consequently, as of Wednesday 1st December, we will expect Rhosnesni students to wear appropriate face masks when inside the building. From Thursday 2nd December, as with school uniform, we will deem a face mask to be a reasonable condition of entry to school site. With the notable exception of those children who are medically exempt, students who arrive without a face mask will be sent home after parents have been contacted. This term, we cannot routinely provide face masks to students who arrive ill-equipped. We will have a small number of disposable masks in school, reserved for those rare and genuine occasions when masks tear or break. Your support in this matter will be absolutely crucial.

Isolation and PCR Tests - Fully Vaccinated or Aged 5 - 17

If you have any coronavirus symptoms (a high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss or change of taste or smell), you should self-isolate at home and get a test. You should not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Self-isolation applies to adults and children of all ages.

Self-isolation means that you do not leave the house. You should self-isolate straight away if you have symptoms and until you receive the results of a COVID-19 PCR test.

If someone in your household has symptoms or has tested positive for coronavirus and you are fully vaccinated or aged 5 to 17 you should self-isolate and take a PCR test. If your test is negative you can stop isolating.

Fire Safety and Evacuation

At Rhosnesni High School, we regularly re-evaluate our fire risk assessments and evacuation procedures. In recent years, we have taken a number of steps to improve fire safety planning, including:

- Fire rated electromagnetic door locks
- Replacement emergency exits in the science department
- Enhanced fire alarm technology, maintenance and testing
- Training and guidance for key staff
- Updated fire evacuation policy

RESPECT HONESTY SUCCESS
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It is essential that all of our youngsters remain calm and know exactly what to do in a fire emergency. We have an important evacuation drill in the coming days, so that all staff and students are reminded of our expectations. However, we should never assume that an alarm is a drill or behave complacently.

Whilst the vast majority of our students are responsible and considerate, I ask that all parents and carers remind their children that it is a serious offence to bring a source of ignition (lighter/matches) on to school site. Similarly, falsely activating a fire alarm is a criminal offence which may lead to a large fine and permanent exclusion. The law states:

'A person commits an offence if he/she knowingly gives or causes to be given a false alarm of fire to a person acting on behalf of a fire and rescue authority.'

Inconsiderate Parking

I would like to thank those parents/carers who are extremely careful not to drop-off or collect their children near to the school gates. Sadly, however, a very small number of our parents have become uncooperative or rude when politely advised to park more considerately. As I have said in previous letters, people who park directly opposite - or in close proximity to - our school entrances inadvertently endanger the lives of students as they attempt to cross.

Thank you for taking the time to read this important letter. By working together, we can make Rhosnesni High School as safe as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Brant', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr A Brant
Headteacher