



INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

From: Mr J A Quartermain, Headmaster
Email: headmaster@rossall.org.uk
Tel: 01253 774247

Tuesday, 8th June 2021

Dear All,

The sun is shining and it is wonderful to be entering summer with a sense that the most difficult challenges of the pandemic are now behind us. As of Sunday 6th June, 76.6% of the adult population in the UK have received a first dose of the vaccine. Furthermore, 52.5% of all adults have received both doses. In Wyre (our council area) over 80% have now received a first dose and 64.8% have received both doses of the vaccine. Currently there are 0 patients in Blackpool Hospital with COVID and it is clear that the vaccination programme has broken the link between community transmission and serious illness. This is excellent news but we must remain vigilant for a while longer yet given the risk posed by new variants such as the Delta variant.

As you are aware, there has been a modest rise in COVID cases during the last couple of weeks. Most of these cases are asymptomatic and the majority are detected in those who have yet to be vaccinated. You may be aware of news reports that serve to highlight the ongoing problems in towns such as Bolton and Blackburn & Darwen, where take up of the vaccine has been a little lower. This afternoon, it was suggested that an 'enhanced level of support' would be provided to Greater Manchester and Lancashire because of the hotspots within the east of the county. Please do note that whilst cases remain very low here, our geographical proximity to these areas means that this guidance and restrictions may apply to us; even though our infection rate is currently well below the national average in the UK.

There are still some people over the age of 50 who have not received their second dose and so there is still an element of risk for those who are potentially vulnerable.

Lateral Flow Testing

As Matthew Hancock stated yesterday morning, **it is vitally important that school children continue to take a rapid lateral flow test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days)**. Our success throughout the pandemic has been dependent upon the fact that staff, pupils and parents have all helped us to keep children in education by testing regularly and self-isolating if necessary.

Facemasks

Facemasks will remain in use within classrooms and the dining hall for the foreseeable future and this is in accordance with Lancashire County Council's advice to schools.



Rossall School, Fleetwood, Lancashire, FY7 8JW
Telephone +44 (0)1253 774201 Fax +44 (0)1253 772052 Email info@rossall.org.uk

www.rossall.org.uk

Town Leave

Arrangements for town leave are currently under review and we will be guided by our daily analysis of local data. In the last seven days there have been 0 cases in the area immediately around Rossall and 0 cases in the area of Cleveleys closest to the School. This is tremendously encouraging but we remain as vigilant as ever.

The Traffic Light System

Last week, Portugal was taken off the UK's 'green list' at relatively short notice and a number of countries were added to the red list. This list is regularly updated and available at:

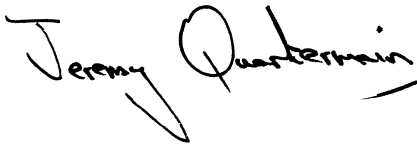
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/red-amber-and-green-list-rules-for-entering-england#red-list>

Should any further changes occur to this list then we will communicate this with you directly.

Finally....

It is too early to know whether or not the anticipated easing of restrictions will take place on 21st June. However, we believe that the priority must be to safeguard the very real progress that we have made over recent months. This will ensure the enjoyable end to the academic year that our children deserve so very much.

Kindest regards,



Mr J A Quartermain
Headmaster

