



From the Headmaster

I don't intend to write to parents every week, but I have decided to this week as the self-isolation period for those testing positive for COVID-19 has changed again, which may have an impact on those students currently self-isolating.

Changes to the self-isolation period

From Monday 17 January, those who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to end their isolation period after five full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day five and day six providing they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day five and the morning of day six, they can return to school immediately on day six.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day five of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#) and via [Parent Gateway](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation.

Free webinar for parents on exam skills

Elevate Education is running a free webinar on Exam Room Skills which parents of students in Year 11 and Year 13 may find useful. Taking place at 6pm on Tuesday 18 January, the 60-minute session covers:

- what students should be doing in the final weeks before an exam
- how to establish a good routine the night before an exam
- ways to optimise exam room performance.

Register at: <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>.

Forthcoming events

Jazz Night - We have a number of events coming up, including the ever-popular Jazz Night on Friday 4 February, tickets for which will be available to buy online from next week; keep an eye on our social media channels and the school website for details.

Sixth Form Open Evening - This year, Year 11 students will need to pre-register for the Sixth Form Open Evening on 3 February. This is so we can stagger arrivals for the purposes of safety and social distancing. Register at: <https://strschool.co.uk/admissions/sixth-form-open-evening>. (When we have a better idea of numbers, emails will go out to everyone who has registered with an arrival time slot.) The Sixth Form Prospectus 2022 should be published on the website next week. Online applications will open shortly. The deadline for applications to our Sixth Form is 28 February.

Business Networking Event - Following the success of our first Rich's Partnership breakfast on 10 December, we have fixed Friday 1 April for the next event. Any parents who run their own business or who work for a company that would be interested in exploring ways to partner with Sir Thomas Rich's would be very welcome to attend; please email Development Director Vicki Lynn on vn@strs.org.uk for further information.

Finally

The weather has turned a little more wintery this week; I hope you manage to have a relaxing weekend however you choose to spend it.

M. S. Morgan

Matthew Morgan
HEADMASTER

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