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Dear Parent or Carer

Self-isolating students in Year 12

We write to clarify that we expect all Year 12 students who are not self-isolating to attend school next week.

As you are no doubt aware, a number of Tallis Year 12 students are self-isolating at the moment, and a small number of positive COVID tests have been reported from within this larger group. We are in close contact with Public Health England and their present advice is that as long as an institution's contact tracing procedures are effective, as ours are, a year group must stay in school.

On a positive note we can report that there were no new positive tests from Tallis students in Year 12 yesterday, Thursday 15 July.

To contextualise, the national picture is that on July 13 840,000 students were self-isolating and these numbers have risen significantly since last week. Tallis is not an exception to this general picture.

Further, we are told by the epidemiologists that because of the various 'systems of control' that schools are required to implement, and that we have implemented, schools are not drivers of infection.

Indeed, the evidence of the last week is that the students in Year 12 at Tallis who have returned positive tests in most cases acquired their infection from socialising in large groups with other Year 12 students at the weekend. If anything, this suggests that it would be sensible for students to be either at home, or in school, rather than 'out and about'.

We are sorry to take a dim view of our young people's enjoyment of early summer!

Thanks as always for your continuing support. If the situation were to change we would let you know immediately, but we do not imagine that it will.

Regards,

The Tallis Sixth Form Team