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Our Ref: LMCA/CC

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Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to you today in response to the two letters you have received this week from Public Health advising of positive cases of Coronavirus within the school.

We understand that this will have caused you some concern and, following a further meeting with Public Health today which we both attended, wish to provide you with some reassurance and also to seek your support.

We are pleased to be able to confirm that the cases do not appear to be linked in any way and that there is therefore no evidence that the virus has been transmitted in school. While this is reassuring, we have discussed with colleagues in Public Health the need to reaffirm the national messaging around the following ways we can prevent any further cases in the school and we really need your support to reiterate these with your young person.

The importance of regular **hand-washing** cannot be over-stated – please do remind your son/daughter of the importance of washing hands throughout the day, but particularly before embarking on school transport; before entering the school building, after using the toilet and before and after eating and drinking. Sanitiser dispensers are available throughout the school and there is access to soap and water in toilet areas and some classrooms.

Physical distancing wherever possible is also an important measure. There is no requirement for secondary-aged pupils to be 2 metres apart from others throughout the school day. We would, however, encourage all pupils to try to maintain physical distancing wherever this is possible at breaks and lunchtimes and avoid very close contact with others in toilets and social areas.

One of the significant changes which came into place on the 31st of August was the requirement for all children and young people aged 5 years and above to wear a **face covering** on **school transport**. This is mandatory for pupils (apart from young people who are exempt) in line with the regulations on wearing face coverings on public transport. Can you please reiterate to your son/daughter the vital importance of this measure and ensure that they have a suitable covering which can be worn on school transport. The school have been issuing many pupils with disposable face coverings and can continue to do so where there is a genuine need, but young people should arrive at school with their own covering (this can be a scarf etc. there is no need for a medical grade mask). I am sure that most young people will have access to such a covering as they are required to wear them in shops, cafes etc. If this is an issue for your family, please do not hesitate to contact your child's guidance teacher.

In addition, we ask for your support in encouraging your son/daughter to wear this **face covering** in communal and social areas of the school building, such as corridors, dining areas and social spaces. Your young person can also choose to wear such a covering in classes, but this entirely a matter of personal choice.

We are excited about the move to the new Barony Campus on the 26th of October and your support with all of the above measures will help our teams to ensure that we keep everyone safe and well.

It is a team effort, particularly during the challenges of a pandemic and we are sure that everyone will get behind Team Barony for the benefit the whole school community.

With thanks for your continued support,

Linda McAulay-Griffiths and Peter Gilchrist

Kindest regards



LINDA McAULAY-GRIFFITHS
Head of Education



PETER GILCHRIST
Head Teacher, Barony Campus