



Headteacher: Mr A Bhugvandeem

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

I hope my message finds you safe and well.

Many of you will know that a postcode in our catchment area, WS2 has been named as one of the areas where the COVID-19 variant first identified in South Africa has been found.

Whilst the advice is to stay at home, the academy remains open to our most vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers in line with the latest government guidance. Travel to and from school continues to be considered essential travel.

We have been assured that there is currently no evidence to suggest that this variant is more serious than others. Furthermore, we continue to take every precaution here at the academy including regular COVID testing, focused cleaning and ensuring good hand and respiratory hygiene.

For information, in order to monitor and suppress the variant, additional testing is being made available to residents in the area, and it is strongly recommended that every person over 16 take a test this week.

Mobile testing units are being deployed and additional home test kits will be made available by the local authority. Please visit <https://go.walsall.gov.uk/newsroom/check-whether-you-should-be-tested-for-the-south-african-variant> for more information.

In the meantime, remember that we are here for you whenever you need us, so please do not hesitate to get in touch with any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Bhugvandeem  
Headteacher

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