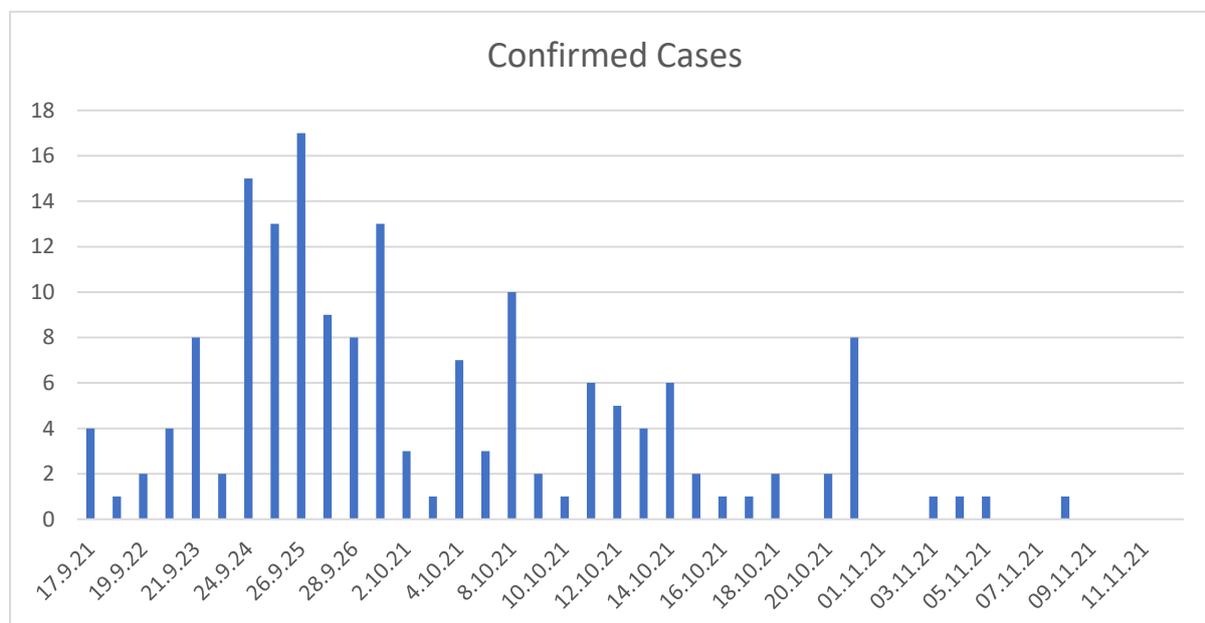


## Update to parents and carers on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

We have had a positive first two weeks back in school, with the good news that cases of Covid-19 have dropped significantly. There has been just one reported positive case this week, on Monday morning. The graph below gives an idea of how cases have fallen since our outbreak in late September/early October.



We now feel able to ease some of our **safety measures**. From Monday:

- Face coverings will no longer be required on school site, although staff and students can continue to wear them, should they prefer; face coverings remain on school transport.
- We will return to face-to-face assemblies.
- We will not yet start sporting fixtures with other schools, until we have more information about trends in the area.
- We will encourage students to continue to wash hands regularly and use sanitiser in the dining room and when going into class; we will promote good respiratory hygiene, with use of tissues and the “catch it; kill it; bin it” mantra. We will also keep classrooms well-ventilated, and use the CO2 monitors to check there is adequate fresh air.
- Please continue to carry out twice-weekly LFD tests with your child at home; we will keep supplying test kits, but do contact Mrs Sampson if you run low of tests.
- If your child has a positive LFD test, they must isolate and get a PCR test; if the PCR result is negative, they can return to school, only if the subsequent daily LFD tests remain negative; they should get a second PCR 4-5 days later. Close contacts should also get a PCR test, and repeat it 4-5 days later, if the first result was negative. Close contacts do not need to isolate, but should take an LFD test daily.

I have been informed that there will be a **Walk-In Clinic for Covid-19 vaccinations for 12-15 year-olds**, who have not already received a vaccination. This will be held at **Ludlow Community Hospital on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November between 5pm and 7pm.**

### Other news:

Please return your child’s consent form for the **FLU VACCINATIONS**, to be held in school on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

It is our **Year 9 GCSE Options Information Evening** on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm. Please come along with your child, to find out about the variety of GCSE courses available next year. I would ask that you wear a face covering as there will be mixing during the evening. Please bring along the yellow booklet that your child brought home on Monday.

Finally, for parents/carers of students in Year 11, I am forwarding the link from **Ofqual regarding GCSE exams** this summer. It provides you with the information about the arrangements for exams, including changes made to support lost schooling during the pandemic, how exams will be graded, and contingency arrangements if exams cannot be sat, and Teacher Assessed Grades have to be used again, this year. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-letters-arrangements-for-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022/letter-to-students>

It was lovely to meet so many Year 7 parents/carers on Wednesday evening; I hope that found the meeting with your child's tutor helpful and reassuring. Unfortunately, not all of the parents/carers of Year 10 students, who we had invited in, were able to join us. Your child's CLT will make contact with you to arrange a convenient time for a conversation about your child's progress.

Finally, there will be numerous Remembrance services in the area on Sunday, and many of our children will be taking part. I look forward to seeing our students in Ludlow; Jack and Nia, our Head Boy and Girl, will lead the prayers in St Laurence's Church. I feel very proud that so many Ludlow School students are part of this event every year.

Best wishes, Paula Hearle