

CHN/Irr

4 January 2022

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Dear Parents/Carers

Update to Covid arrangements

Firstly may I wish you a happy new year and I hope we have all had a restful break.

I am writing to update on a few changes to Covid arrangements as announced by the government this week. These changes are in light of the current national high level of positive cases.

Face coverings in classrooms

It is now expected that all students wear face coverings at all times in the classroom and around the school, with the following exceptions;

- Those who are mask exempt
- When eating or drinking in social areas
- When undertaking physical exercise (PE/Dance lessons)
- When outside

Of course students may still choose to wear masks at all times if they wish.

Changes to isolation periods

The isolation period has now changed. Any student who has had a positive Covid test can take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 (where day 1 is the first day of symptoms, or positive test result, whichever is earlier). If both of these LFD tests are negative then the student can return to school on day 7.

Isolation for close contacts

If a student has been a close contact of a Covid case (including household cases) they should continue to attend school as long as they are undertaking daily LFD tests which show as negative (up to 7 days after the contact). However, we do ask that that if Track and Trace request your child takes a PCR test then this person remains at home until this result is received. Any student who is not able to complete LFD tests will need to isolate for the full 10 days.

Availability of LFD tests

We are expecting our next delivery of LFD tests in school on Friday 7 January. As soon as these are in school we will be issuing to students. We continue to order in as many as we are able to and will distribute to students accordingly.

Home Testing

We continue to ask all students to home test twice a week and as mentioned above will be issuing additional kits as soon as they are available.

Other school measures

We continue with our current risk control measures, which includes;

- Enhanced cleaning
- Enhanced ventilation
- Reduced large gatherings (assemblies online)
- School testing on return and twice weekly home testing

With increased ventilation classrooms can be colder, students are able to wear a plain black V neck jumper and blazer as part of the uniform. Hoodies and PE tops are not allowed in the classroom.

We are continuing with clubs, trips, visits and practical lessons as we believe it is important students do not miss out on these valuable experiences.

We hope that the above measures mean that we can minimise absence and ensure students achieve as much of the full school experience as possible. Thank you once again for working with us in these measures.

Yours faithfully



Mr C Norwood
Headteacher