



25th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, guidance around COVID 19 restrictions was updated by the Government yesterday. This communication is to clarify our expectations now that there is no longer a *legal requirement* for people with coronavirus to self-isolate.

It is still important for a school community to work together to promote the health and safety of every member. Therefore, if your child has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice remains for them to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. Whilst for many people, especially if they have been vaccinated, COVID-19 can prove to be relatively mild, it can still be a very serious infection, and for some the risk of becoming severely unwell is higher.

If your child has the main symptoms of COVID-19 (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell) you should still order a PCR test and inform us of the outcome. (Other symptoms linked with COVID-19 include shortness of breath, fatigue, loss of appetite, muscle ache, sore throat, headache, stuffy or runny nose, diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting. Any of these symptoms may also have another cause.)

Children and young people with COVID-19 **should not attend their education setting while they are infectious**. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both test results are negative, they can return to school if they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature.

Children and young people who live with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 should continue to attend the setting as normal.

If your child has a positive LFT, **the result should still be reported on gov.uk** so that our absence records are accurate and in line with the local authority. We will continue to offer online lessons to pupils who record a positive result if they are well enough to access learning activities.

This week, three positive tests have been reported to school. We will continue to monitor cases and respond appropriately to any rise in numbers. We will also continue to work within our risk assessments and maintain good ventilation, additional cleaning and hand hygiene.

With caution, we also aim to open our doors to parents and visitors more regularly, and trust that you will work with us to make this a safe and positive move.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

With kind regards,

Louise Ballard