



22nd April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Covid-19 Update

Welcome to the start of the Summer Term. I hope you were able to enjoy a pleasant break and I particularly extend warm wishes to our families that will soon be celebrating Eid.

The government recently announced further relaxation of the Covid-19 control measures in line with the government's "Living with Covid-19" plan, and so I thought you would appreciate further clarification of the arrangements in school.

Positive for Covid-19

Students who test positive are expected to self-isolate, stay at home and avoid contact with others **for a minimum of 3 days**. This expectation continues so that we can keep infections to a minimum and keep the school running.

Anyone with symptoms, whether they have a test or not, should stay at home **for at least 3 days**. Before returning to school they must feel well and not be symptomatic and must not have a temperature of 37.8C or above.

As stocks allow we intend to post a pack of lateral flow test kits home to anyone affected.

Lateral Flow Testing

All students have been given a stock of lateral flow tests to take home. These will continue to be available from local pharmacies. Note that schools are no longer be able to order test kits so we will not be able to routinely issue further supplies to students.

Students who have symptoms are advised to use any test kits they already have at home to undertake testing. When tests show they are negative on two consecutive days this indicates that they are no longer infectious.

The government has now removed the guidance for students in most education settings to routinely undertake asymptomatic testing.

Close Contact

If your child has extended **close contact** with anyone who has tested positive for COVID, please keep a **watchful eye out for symptoms**, they are advised to do lateral flow tests for 7 days. They can attend school unless they feel unwell, are symptomatic or have a temperature of 37.8C or above.



Face coverings

Students are not required to wear face coverings in school but can do so if they, or their family, prefer this. Many children and staff are continuing to wear masks.

Remote Learning

If your child has to isolate, or is unwell, they can continue their learning remotely by accessing subject materials as shown in the Remote Learning section of the school website.

Summary of control measures

We are aware that many children that test positive present mild symptoms a few days before testing positive, often similar to those of a cold such as a headache, sniffles, sore or scratchy throat.

- **Students should not attend school if they are unwell**
- We expect social distancing to be maintained between students and staff.
- Students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitise their hands.

Overall

The control measures will continue to be reviewed together with the UK Health Security Agency throughout the term and we will adhere to the guidance provided by the DfE. Please be aware that arrangements can change at short notice.

Thankfully we are gradually getting back to normal at school, but still remain cautious. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

T. Hartney CBE