

JCB/SMF

28 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to take this opportunity of updating you of our practices regarding Covid following the changes made by the Government which came into force last week as well as updates to the guidance issued to schools by the Department for Education (DfE).

- 1. Wearing a face-covering in school is now voluntary in all settings.
- 2. If your child shows symptoms of Covid, you should arrange to get a PCR test. We recommend that your child stays at home until the result is known.
- 3. The legal requirement to isolate if your child tests positive for Covid has been removed. However, Government guidance still recommends that if a student tests positive they should remain at home for 10 days, unless you get two negative LFD tests taken 24 hours apart. You can start this testing process from day 5. For information, day zero is the date of your positive test or when symptoms first appear. Students who have Covid will be able to join live lessons if they are well enough to do so. Please continue to report positive results to school using the link on the school's web site.
- 4. The requirement to undertake twice weekly testing for asymptomatic cases or for daily testing if you are identified as a close contact has also been removed. You should, however, continue to use an LFD test from day 5 of any Covid infection to achieve 2 negative results so your child can return to school. If you need more tests, please ask your child to collect a box of tests from Student Services.

Covid is still with us, and we want to reduce transmission to minimise risks to those who may be vulnerable. For this reason, routine hygiene measures are unchanged - ventilation, sanitising and hand washing are still recommended.

During the winter months and to enable students to learn in more comfortable conditions, we allowed students to wear coats in lessons. We have now taken the decision that coats are now to be removed in lessons. If a student wishes to keep their coat on, they should ask permission from their teacher.

As a result of these changes, the school's Covid risk assessment will be updated accordingly.

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We are, as ever, extremely grateful for your continued support in these matters. If you have any questions about any of the guidance or the measures we are taking, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours faithfully



Mr J Barnett

Assistant Headteacher