

5 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a peaceful and restful break, and your child is ready for our new spring term.

Start of term

As we welcome pupils back to start the spring term on 5 January, we ask for your support in ensuring that your child attends school promptly at 8:45am each morning in full school uniform.

If you or your child have any concerns about attending school, please speak to your child's Headteacher immediately.

COVID-19 update to school procedures

We are committed to the positive health and well-being of our pupils and staff and continue to follow government guidance on COVID-19. The guidance changed a little before Christmas and we have reflected this in the procedures we are now following below for our school communities:

- If your child shows any COVID-19 symptoms please keep them off school, they must self-isolate and get a [test](#).
- If they test positive, your child will need to remain in self-isolation for 7-10 days depending on their situation. This is where the [government guidance has changed](#):
 - People who receive negative LFD results on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period – with tests taken 24 hours apart – will no longer have to self-isolate for the full 10 days. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period.
 - Those who leave self-isolation on or after day 7 are strongly advised to limit close contact with other people in crowded or poorly ventilated spaces, work from home and minimise contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID- 19.
 - There is no change to the guidance for unvaccinated contacts of positive COVID-19 cases, who are still required to self-isolate for 10 full days after their date of exposure to the virus.
- We are asking staff and pupils to take lateral flow tests twice a week. Please can you encourage your child to do these at home, ideally on a Wednesday and Sunday evening. [LFD tests are free and can be picked up from a pharmacy or delivered to your home.](#)
- Staff are encouraged to wear face coverings in the classroom as well as in communal areas of the school.
- Pupils from Year 7 and above are encouraged to do the same. If your child is happy to wear a face covering and does not have one, we can provide these at school.
- Staff and pupils are reminded to be vigilant about handwashing regularly and using hand sanitizer throughout the day.

It's essential that we continue to follow government guidelines, so we are able to keep schools open and deliver education face-to-face, which we know is the best way for our pupils to learn. We will keep abreast of any developments and update you if there are any changes to the above.

Please let your Headteacher know if you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter.