

4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all.

As you are aware we are planning a safe and staggered return to school to ensure the safety of all in our community. To remind you of the details, please see the attached [document](#).

The Department for Education updated its guidance for schools on Sunday 2nd January 2022. They are now recommending that face coverings are worn in classrooms:

*“The advice is short term only, to support pupils and teachers as they return to school this term and builds on the existing proportionate guidance that recommends face coverings for all adults in communal areas of all settings. We are updating our guidance to reflect this. The advice on face coverings in classrooms will be in place until Wednesday 26 January, when Plan B regulations are currently scheduled to expire, at which point it will be reviewed.”*

In addition, the guidance regarding self isolation has also been updated. Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the seventh day.

We continue to encourage students, parents and staff alike to complete the twice weekly home testing and [report all results to NHS Test and Trace](#). Even if someone has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are **strongly encouraged to take part in LFD testing** once they have completed their isolation period for their prior infection.

We will be issuing students with further home test kits on their return to school this week. Many thanks for your ongoing support,

Kind regards,



Karen Hand  
Headteacher