Date: 19th January 2022

Re: School Updates – COVID

Dear Parent/Carer.

Firstly, thank you for your continued support as we navigate our way through, what continues to be, a difficult period in school. We are currently managing to provide face-to-face education to all students who can attend but this continues to be monitored daily as we manage staff absence rates.

Advice to All Parents - Warn and Inform

We have been advised that there has been a number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 across the school. With students being in close proximately we therefore feel it is vital that students keep testing at home to keep us all safe.

NHS Test and Trace may be in contact with children who have been identified as a close contact and provide further advice. You will be informed of what steps you need to take if this applies to you.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. If you do need further LFD tests please send your child to the student reception to collect a box.

How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19):

* get vaccinated – everyone aged 12 and over can book COVID-19 vaccination appointments now.
* wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day.
* cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze.
* put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.
* meet people outside and avoid crowded areas.
* open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside.
* wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over). We encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-sitecovid19-results>

Information and support

**What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19**

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

* new continuous cough and/or
* high temperature and/or
* a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child does develop symptoms, they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)). If positive, the child should isolate for 10 days after their symptoms appeared.

You may now able to leave isolation early, subject to government guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-homeguidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If you are concerned about your child’s symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at

https://111.nhs.uk/ or by phoning 111.

Yours faithfully.

Rachel Campbell and Emily Carr

Co Headteachers