

Dear Parents & Carers

You will be aware that earlier this week, the Covid-19 guidance changed and the new guidance came into effect from today. Below is a break down of the main points.

Self-isolation

From today, the government have removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, adults and children who test positive are **advised** to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least five full days. They should then continue to follow the guidance until they have received two negative lateral flow test results on consecutive days.

Routine contact tracing has now ended. Fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 will no longer be asked to test daily for seven days, and close contacts who are not fully vaccinated will no longer be required to self-isolate.

Testing

With immediate effect, the government has removed the guidance for staff and students to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing.

We advise that students with a Special Educational Need who are medically vulnerable should continue twice-weekly lateral flow testing. Staff who work closely with such students should also test twice a week.

Anyone with symptoms should take a PCR test, stay at home and follow government guidance if positive. People who have tested positive are **advised** to stay at home for five full days and receive two negative lateral flow test results, on consecutive days, before returning to the academy.

Longer-term plans

From Friday 1 April, the government will no longer provide free universal symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public in England.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully



Mr P Willerton
Principal