

Covid-19 Updated Information

Dear Parents and Carers,

As of the 1st April, the government has implemented the next steps in the 'Living with Covid' strategy. The universal testing offer ended and there is now no requirement for pupils or staff to test regularly.

Although testing and self-isolation are no longer a legal requirement, we have a duty of care in relation to the health and safety of our school community and will continue to take measures to prevent the spread of the virus. The government has advised that all settings should have in place baseline infection prevention and control measures that will help to manage the spread of infection. These include:

- Ensuring all eligible groups are enabled and supported to take up the offer of national vaccination programmes including Covid-19 and flu.
- Ensuring occupied spaces are well-ventilated to allow fresh air in.
- Reinforcing good hygiene practices such as hand washing and cleaning.

The government has also announced that children and young people who are unwell **and** have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature and they feel well enough to attend.

Adults with symptoms of a respiratory infection and who have a high temperature or feel unwell should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to assume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.

In the event that a Covid-19 test is taken, adults with a positive test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, **the advice is now 3 days**. There is no longer a requirement for pupils or staff to complete a negative test before returning to school.

Remote Learning:

In line with pre-pandemic practices and in light of updated government guidance, we shall be re-implementing the following policy. Unless there are specific cases agreed with the Headteacher / Head of Year that warrant resources being sent home when pupils and students are too unwell to attend school (i.e. for a prolonged period of absence beyond 7 days), we will no longer be providing remote learning. For all periods of absence less than 7 days, the onus will be on the child to speak to their subject teachers upon their return to school who will provide the necessary resources, help and support in order for them to catch up. However, if there is a significant outbreak resulting in a whole year group being sent home, partial or full school closure due to Covid-19, our existing remote learning procedures will be implemented.

We appreciate that the last couple of years has been incredibly challenging for everybody and would like to thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr A. Walker

Deputy Headteacher (Teaching and Learning)