

21 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Update on control measures

I am writing to let you know there have been confirmed cases of Covid-19 within the school community.

Schools are no longer asked to identify the close contacts of cases of Covid - this is done by the national Test and Trace system. Test and Trace may be in touch with you in the coming days if they identify your child as a close contact, but as a school we do not pass personal contact details on to the cases to share with Test and Trace.

Children who are identified as close contacts of someone with Covid-19 are no longer required to isolate, but they are advised to get a PCR test. They do not need to isolate while they wait for the result unless they have symptoms.

The 3 main Covid symptoms remain:

- a temperature of 37.8 degrees or higher.
- a new continuous cough.
- a change to or loss of taste and smell.

Your child should continue to attend school unless they develop symptoms of Covid-19 or are unwell. If they do develop symptoms, please keep your child at home and book a PCR test for them.

Our priority is to deliver face-to-face, high-quality education to our students, while maintaining proportionate control measures.

We are following DfE and Public Health guidance and continue to:

- Strongly encourage all staff and students to complete twice weekly LFD tests. *Students can collect LFD test packs from the dining hall at break times.*
- Maximise ventilation of classrooms
- Carry out additional cleaning, with a focus on frequently touched surfaces
- Use fogging machines to clean communal areas and classrooms on a rota basis
- Carry out activities such as PE outside, as much as possible
- Encourage hand and respiratory hygiene amongst staff and pupils.
- Advise visitors to stay away if they have any symptoms.

In light of the recent cases, we are stepping up our measures for a two-week period in the first instance. The enhanced measures we will put in place from **Wednesday 22 September** are:

- Students will remain in their year group at break times
- Students will remain in their year group at lunch times

- Face coverings will be required rather than expected and recommended on buses to and from the Academy, unless exemptions apply
- Face coverings will be required in communal areas, unless exemptions apply.

We will operate these enhanced arrangements for a two-week period, subject to regular review, until Monday 4 October. We will write to you before this date with an update on our plans.

Your child should continue to attend school unless they develop symptoms of Covid-19 or are unwell. If they do develop symptoms, please keep your child at home and book a PCR test for them.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Yours faithfully



Mrs N Williams
Principal