



29 November 2021

Dear Families

Updated COVID-19 Guidance for Schools

As you will be aware, the Government has reintroduced the requirement for wearing a face covering in Super Markets and while travelling on public transport. In line with this, the Department for Education have also updated their policy about face coverings in education settings.

As from 30 November face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings by staff and visitors unless they are exempt (pupils in primary school settings are not required to wear face coverings).

We must ask that all visitors including parents and guardians, wear a face covering when coming into the school office. We also encourage everyone to wear a face covering on drop off and pick up times while on the school grounds. Together with social distancing this will lessen the likelihood of the spread of infection.

The new variant of the Omicron strain on COVID-19 has clearly sparked a cause for concern across MP's and health officials. We will be continuing to follow guidance strictly within school and ask that everyone stays vigilant at home. We only have 3 weeks left until the Christmas break and we are keen to get there without major disruption.

If your child(ren) develop any of the following symptoms, please keep them at home and arrange a PCR test for them as soon as possible. We cannot accept LFT test results.

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Please do be aware that if a child develops one or more of these symptoms, we will contact you and ask you to collect them as soon as possible and arrange a PCR test. We as an education setting are responsible for the wellbeing of our whole school community and will not accept that "it is just a cold". We must be clear in our approach to ensuring that everyone is safe. Prior to children returning to school you MUST provide proof of a negative test result.

The current guidance on contact tracing and isolation remains in place. In addition to these, any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly and told to isolate.



We hope you will appreciate that this is an ever changing situation and we will do everything possible to keep you informed of any updates and requirements set by the Government and the Department for Education. We would like to thank you in advance for your support and help with this.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. R Horan
Headteacher