

**4<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

Dear Parents, Carers

### **Return to school covid guidance**

Firstly, happy New Year to you all, we hope that your festive break has been a good one and that you have been able to enjoy time with your loved ones.

We have been informed from Doncaster Council that Covid rates across Doncaster have increased rapidly, linked to the new omicron variant so we need to continue to follow the national and operational guidance to reduce the spread and keep everyone safe.

A summary of how this affects us as a school is as follows:

#### **Self-Isolation**

- If a person tests positive for covid (confirmed by a PCR test) they must isolate. However, it is possible to end-self isolation after 7 days, following 2 negative LFD tests taken 24 hours apart. The first LFD test should not be taken before the 6<sup>th</sup> day. School staff and pupils who have 2 consecutive negative tests on day 6 and 7 can return to school.
- If it is not possible to take an LFD test on day 6 and 7, then the person must continue to self-isolate for the full 10-day period.
- This guidance also applies to the under 5-year-olds.

#### **Close Contacts, including household contacts**

- If you are a person who has had close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID and is fully vaccinated or aged 5-18 years 6 months, provided you have no symptoms and no positive test result, you should complete an LFD test every day for 7 days. This does not stop attendance at school whilst close contact testing takes place.
- This does not apply to under 5-year-olds, they should be PCR tested and can attend the setting whilst waiting for the results.
- People who are not fully vaccinated and living in the same household as someone with covid-19 are legally required to stay home and self-isolate. This only applies to people aged 18 years and 6 months or above. Fully vaccinated is defined as 14 days after having 2 doses of an approved vaccine.

### Face coverings

- Staff and adults moving around our school or in communal areas will be wearing face coverings as per the operational guidance. Face coverings for pupils does not apply for our setting.

### PCR testing

- Any pupil or staff member with new COVID symptoms should arrange for PCR testing and not attend the school site – we ask that if you (your child) are generally unwell that you still undertake an LFD test to rule out covid. Should an LFD test come back positive then a PCR test should be taken and the guidance above be followed.

### Handwashing

- Good hand hygiene will continue with children encouraged to wash hands often throughout the day.

Doncaster Council would like to remind you that the [self isolation support grant](#) remains available and the criteria and how to apply is available at the link above or by visiting their website.

Information about local support for self-isolation is [available here](#), including a phone number for people who need additional support in self-isolation. This information is also available on the DMBC website

As always, if you have any queries or would like to clarify your situation, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the office.

Thank you again for all that you have been doing to protect pupils, staff, and the wider community.

Kind regards



Mrs L.A. Chappell  
Principal