



Ref: CovidUpdateMarch/CTY/hll

4th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid-19 Update

As we enter the final weeks of the spring term I am writing to provide you with an update on the current guidance around Covid-19. As you will be aware, following the Government briefing last week there are changes planned for 1st March and 1st April. The guidance for schools is impacted by both the Covid Operational Guidance for schools and the wider national measures for public and employers.

I would like to expand on the main areas which I hope will continue to see a decline in cases and route back to full normality.

Attendance

As you know, **school attendance is mandatory for all pupils** of compulsory school age and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school. We expect parents/carers to follow the most up to date guidance when it comes to isolating due to displaying Covid symptoms and/or testing positive. There is **no legal requirement to self-isolate**, however, for the remainder of this half term (until Easter), if students have one of the three main symptoms we would **advise you to stay at home and take a test** in order to protect our community.

If you fail to take a test or do not provide evidence of a positive test then this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and will be considered should attendance become, or continue to be, a concern.

We do have a small stock of lateral flow tests should these be required.

Lateral Flow Tests

Following the 'Living with COVID-19' announcement on Monday 21 February, staff and students in all mainstream education are no longer advised to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing.

Staff and secondary-aged students in SEND settings, alternative provision settings, and SEND units within mainstream settings, or equivalent in further education colleges, are advised to continue regular twice-weekly testing.

As always, we will keep you up to date with any changes or updates as they come through in order to keep our school community safe.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Ian Critchley
Principal

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