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1<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you had an enjoyable half-term break and our children are looking forward to returning to school tomorrow.

As you will be aware, the Government announced that the domestic legal restrictions implemented in response to COVID-19 are coming to an end. I am therefore writing to update you on what this will mean for your child and the measures we have in place at the school to help limit transmission of the virus within our school and the wider community.

### Regular symptom free testing

- The Government has removed guidance for staff in most education and childcare settings to undertake twice-weekly symptom free testing. Of course, if you have access to test kits and would like to continue testing then you are welcome to.
- If there needs to be a return to more regular lateral flow testing, for example because of an outbreak in school or high community transmission, we will be advised when to do so by our local public health teams and make you aware.

### Self-isolation and contact-tracing

From Thursday 24th February, the Government removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, adults and children who test positive are still advised to stay at home (and therefore not attend school) and avoid contact with other people for at least five full days. They should then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. The Government will no longer ask close contacts of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 who are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days. Routine contact tracing will also end. For more information, please go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

### We will be continuing with COVID-secure measures. This includes maintaining the following:

- Good and frequent hand hygiene for staff and pupils
- Good ventilation
- Good respiratory hygiene – this includes following ‘Catch It, Bin It, Kill It’. This means using tissues if you cough or sneeze, dispose of the waste in a bin and then wash your hands afterwards
- The use of PPE for any child or staff who are unwell
- Appropriate cleaning
- Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Cont/d overleaf



Company Number: 8314293



We very much recognise and appreciate the support and cooperation that everyone has shown to the range of safety measures we have implemented at school over the last two years, all of which have been in line with Government and Public Health guidance. It has helped us to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff and school community, whilst limiting disruption to learning as much as possible.

There may be some uncertainty around the new changes, but I assure you that we will continue to closely follow all guidance from the Government, Public Health England and our local health protection teams to ensure all decisions are made in the best interests of our pupils and staff.

As always, if you have any questions or would like to discuss any of this further, please do not hesitate to get in touch and thank you again for all your support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Wright', with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Wright  
Head of School