



21st January 2022

Important Communication from the CEO

Dear Parents/carers

Following Wednesday's announcement from the Prime Minister regarding the removal of Plan B COVID 19 measures, I wanted to write and update you on our position as a Trust.

As you may be aware from the media, the rates of infection for COVID appear to be reducing nationally and due to the hard work of all colleagues, pupils and communities we continue to function well and deliver high quality teaching and learning.

I would like to thank you for helping us to successfully manage this by following the national guidance and our Trust procedures to protect and reduce the spread of this virus within our academies and their wider communities.

However, whilst we are currently at a manageable rate, we do still have a number of cases within all our Academies that are affecting both pupils and staff.

Due to having had outbreaks of COVID within our academies, after careful consideration and after consultation with Doncaster Public Health, we have decided to continue with the current measures that we have in place as part of our Outbreak Management Plan to help reduce the spread of the virus to our pupils and staff. We will continue to review this on a weekly basis and anticipate that we will start to step down these measures at the end of the half term.

The measures that will remain in place are as follows:

- Staff members will continue to undertake LFT three times a week
- Staff members and all visitors will continue to wear face coverings within communal areas
- Everyone will be encouraged to wash/sanitise their hands regularly throughout the day
- Regular cleaning throughout the day
- Staggered drop off and pick up times
- Visitors will be encouraged to undertake a negative LFT upon arrival.

Whilst we understand that from the 27th January the use of face coverings is no longer a legal requirement, we kindly request that parents/carers help us to manage the risk of infection by continuing to wear a face covering when entering the school premises at drop off and pick up times or if entering the building to speak with the office staff.



New Changes to Current Guidance

If you are aged 5 years and over and have been identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19, and you are not legally required to self-isolate, you are now strongly advised to:

- take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days
- take a daily lateral flow test before you leave your home for the first time that day

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device on both day 5 and day 6 (24 hours apart) and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can leave isolation.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

The Government is urging everyone to book in for a booster jab if eligible in order to protect yourself and your family members

Once again, I would like to thank you all for your continued support, we very much hope that you understand our reasons for continuing with these measures. As always, the safety of our pupils and staff is paramount and we will continue to keep you informed of any new updates.

Yours sincerely

Beryce Nixon
CEO
National Leader of Education