



25 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the updates to national guidance this week, we have been in consultation with the local Health Protection Team about changes to the arrangements in school regarding COVID19.

I am pleased to inform you that we are now able to relax some of the restrictions we have been working under and begin a phased reintroduction of the kind of events and activities that make school so special.

Over the next few weeks this will include:

- the return to a more extensive range of clubs and extracurricular activities
- a broader range of trips
- year group assemblies
- the reintroduction of inside dining facilities
- parent information events held in person at the school site; however, parent teacher consultation evenings will continue in their current online format

We have updated our risk assessment and outbreak management plan and will continue to employ a range of working practices to help ensure a safe working environment for everyone. This will include the following measures:

- continuing to ensure good hygiene practices
- maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes
- keeping spaces well ventilated
- recommending individuals continue to take up the vaccine offer

I would also be grateful if you could familiarise yourself with the additional information outlined below, which we are expected to implement to help reduce transmission.

1. If a student or member of staff develops symptoms they should stay at home, avoid contact with others and get a PCR test as soon as possible.
2. If a student or member of staff tests positive for COVID-19 they should not attend school for at least 5 days, only returning following two successive days of negative tests.

Additional government guidance can be found [here](#).

3. The Government has removed the guidance for staff and students, apart from vulnerable groups, to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing. Subsequently, the school can no longer order free tests. Once you have run out of school-supplied tests, you can order more through the NHS website [here](#).
4. Face coverings will no longer be mandated at school; however, staff and students who wish to continue to wear one will be able to do so. Should the number of cases rise in school, the re-introduction of face coverings will possibly be recommended to us by the Health Protection Team, along with the re-introduction of other measures.

Once again, I would like to thank you all for your continued support with these measures as we ease ourselves back into a more typical school year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shapland', written in a cursive style.

James Shapland
Headteacher