

TLA / GPA

19th April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you, and your families, enjoyed a peaceful Easter holiday. I am writing to you today regarding the new Government guidance, effective from Friday 1st April 2022, which states that Covid-19 is to be treated like other respiratory infections.

The guidance says that **pupils who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people**. They can return to school when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

Pupils with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend school.

While testing for Covid is no longer required, **if someone does have a positive test**, they should **stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days (for those aged 19 and over) or 3 days (for those aged 18 and under)**, which is when they are most infectious. At the end of this period, if they still have a high temperature or feel unwell, they should continue to stay at home until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and no longer have a high temperature (if they had one). The full government guidance can be accessed [here](#).

Whilst schools are required, by law, to report all student absence to the DfE, schools are no longer required to use separate codes to identify those students who are absent due to Covid-19. We have therefore removed the Covid-19 Student Absence Reporting Form. However, all student absence must be reported to the school in the normal manner. In addition to this, **schools are no longer legally required to provide remote learning to students who are absent from school for reasons relating to Covid-19**. Students are instead encouraged to make contact with their peers regarding any missed work being set in lessons and to access the learning platforms to which the school subscribes, as well as utilising the additional resources and websites which can be found on our school website.

As we welcome the return of our students to school today, it has been pleasing to see that the majority of students are adhering to our expectations around uniform and equipment. We will continue to conduct regular checks to ensure our high standards are being maintained and I should like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support in this regard, it is greatly appreciated.

There is little doubt that the spring term was one of the most challenging we have faced throughout the pandemic, as we dealt with an increased amount of student and staff illness, which impacted our ability to maintain usual standards of provision. However, we are very grateful for the understanding shown by our parents and carers and we have also been tremendously impressed by the resilience and hard work of the students. I must also pay tribute to our staff, who were called upon frequently to cover classes for absent colleagues, creating additional workload pressures, which they accepted with great tenacity and dedication to our school community. As we enter the summer term, we are hopeful that these demands will begin to ease and we will be able to look forward to the events that are planned for the remaining months of the academic year, as well as a very successful exam season for our Year 11 students.

Yours sincerely,



Mr T. Lawn
Headteacher

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