



24 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: COVID 19 – UPDATE – Latest guidance

I hope that our students and families enjoyed a good half term break. We are pleased to welcome back students and staff to the second half of the spring term.

As you will be aware, earlier this week the Prime Minister set out the next phase of the government's COVID-19 response 'Living with COVID-19' in response to 'the successful vaccination programme and given that the risks of severe illness from COVID-19 in most children and most fully vaccinated adults are very low.' The Department for Education (DfE) published the following information to schools. Today we shared the following information with the students via satchel.

Firstly, we would like to thank you for all of your commitment to and compliance with all of the Covid-19 procedures that have been in place this year to protect the school community. As you will be aware, the Government have announced their plan for 'Living with Covid'. From today (Thursday 24 February), the rules in England will change. The School has now received the latest update from the Department for Education and the following will apply:

Testing

Staff and students are no longer required to test twice weekly. However, the school will continue to make them available until our stock has been depleted. If you require tests, you can collect them from Student services. Where taken, results should continue to be reported on the NHS website.

Positive test or symptoms of Covid-19

Students and staff should not come into College if they have symptoms or have had a positive test result. The expectation will remain to self-isolate for at least five full days in line with national guidance. Any absence should be reported in the usual way. Please note that the College has the right to refuse entry to those that are symptomatic or unwell.

Isolation/testing as a close contact

There is no longer a requirement to complete self-tests for 7 days (if fully vaccinated/under 18) or to self-isolate (if unvaccinated and over 18) if you are a close contact of someone with Covid-19. However, should you have symptoms please follow the guidance above.

Face coverings

Face coverings are no longer advised for students, staff and visitors. However, they are permitted to be worn through choice at any time.

Covid-19 mitigations

Maintaining good ventilation should remain a consideration in classrooms and workspaces. The school will continue to promote hand hygiene and open windows and doors to ensure spaces are well ventilated.

Scaling measures up and down

If a new variant or outbreak is detected, the Local Health Protection Team may advise that additional mitigations are reintroduced. The school will advise you if this becomes necessary.

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Tandridge Learning Trust

A School within the Tandridge Learning Trust

One-way system remains

Please note that, although introduced during the pandemic, the one-way system is a measure, to ensure safe and orderly movement around the school that will remain in place.

More detail can be found in the [Living with COVID-19](#) plan published yesterday.

There have, as yet been no other changes to guidance for schools. We will respond to any further changes and communicate relevant information to students, parents/carers and staff. Our school Risk Assessment and Outbreak Management Plans will be updated according to the new guidance received and copies of these will be made available on the school website.

Thank you as always for your continued support at this time.

Yours sincerely,



Mr P Foster

Headteacher