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Sunday, November 28, 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

On Saturday 27 November, the Prime Minister announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK. The new measures will be introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the variant until we have more information.

Face covering now required in school

From Monday, 29th of November 2021, all staff and students will be required to wear a face covering in communal areas in the school. This includes, when entering and leaving school, when moving between classrooms and in dining areas (except when eating and drinking).

Students do not need to wear face coverings when they are outside at break and lunchtimes. We will also maintain our hand washing and ventilation measures and we do not require students to wear a mask in classrooms.

Students who are exempt from wearing a face covering will not be required to do so in school.

Continue to test using lateral flow device tests at home

You should continue to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests. A reminder that if the result of this is positive, you should:

- self-isolate straight away – [check if people you live with need to self-isolate](#)
- get a PCR test (a test that is sent to a lab) to confirm your result as soon as possible – [get a PCR test to check if you have COVID-19 on GOV.UK](#)

Continue to self-isolate until you get the result of the PCR test. Follow the advice you're given when you get the result.

Test & Trace may contact you if you are a confirmed close contact of the Omicron variant

The [current guidance on contact tracing and isolation](#) remains in place.

In addition to these, any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly and told to isolate.

We know none of this will be welcome news, but appreciate your support as we follow these new government guidelines to slow the spread of this variant. We thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Louise Cowley
Headteacher

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