

1st April 2022

Dear parents/carers,

I am sure you are all aware of changes that have occurred in terms of managing COVID - 19. Last night, I received the updated guidance from the DFE which I would now like to share with you.

The guidance now stipulates that:

- Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
- Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

The reasons these new changes have come into place are outlined below:

*“The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.”*

The guidance also states that:

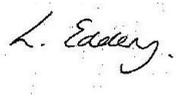
- Regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education or childcare setting, including in SEND, alternative provision and children’s social care settings.

This means we will no longer be able to provide any asymptomatic testing kits.

I appreciate this may cause some level of concern as cases in the local area and within school have risen in recent weeks. We will continue to support students who would like to continue wearing face-coverings.

With only one week to go until the Easter holidays we hope that everyone remains safe and well.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Eddery". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Miss Eddery

Principal