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Updated school COVID-19 risk management in light of new government guidance

Thursday 24th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the issuing of government guidance 'Living with COVID-19' available [here](#), I have updated the school's full risk assessment which will be available on the new website shortly. In the meantime, here are some headlines applicable from Monday 28th February 2022:

- The immediate end to close contact advice and tracing as detailed in the government guidance linked above;
- The removal of any legal obligation to self-isolate if a positive test is returned. Yet, I expect all parents to **apply common sense** in terms of:
 - giving your child an LFD test if they present with the main symptoms of COVID-19;
 - for children to stay at home and away from school for at least 5 full days if a positive test is returned, requiring two negative LFD tests on consecutive days (the first LFD test should not be taken before the fifth day after symptoms start, or the day your test was taken if you did not have symptoms) to return to school. The advisory self-isolation period will remain as 10 full days for those without negative results from 2 LFD tests taken a day apart.
- The removal of any obligation to wear face coverings on the school site (staff or parents);
- The restart of face-to-face assemblies;
- The removal of any restricted use/access to office reception area for parents;
- Allow face-to-face meetings between all adults in school.

Continuing precautions within our updated risk assessment include:

- The need to control parent access to the school site other than via the main reception – please continue to use drop off and pick up arrangements;
- The need to persist with good hand and nasal hygiene for users of the school: children will still be encouraged to wash their hands before and after break and lunchtimes, as well as after blowing their nose. They will also be asked to wash their hands after PE lessons;
- The need to retain good ventilation within all settings, whilst being mindful of the need to maintain adequate temperatures for comfortable learning;
- The use of Toucan Spray to facilitate 'during the day' cleaning, whilst professional cleaning to continue to focus on frequent touch points.

Other points to mention

- We will maintain COVID-19 policy addendums (Eg. First Aid and Medicines) until further notice;
- We will continue to ask parents not to send their child into school if they present with the main symptoms of COVID-19. Rather, that they remain at home and get an LFD test to ensure the earliest possible safe return to school;
- We will continue to ask children to be picked up from school if they present with main symptoms of COVID-19 as well as asking parents to apply common sense and get their child tested using an LFD test.

I hope this provides clarity prior to the start of the new half term. In the meantime, please enjoy the remainder of the holiday.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Rielly