



Tomlinscote School

3rd January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year and I hope that everyone managed to have an enjoyable family time over Christmas.

I would like to provide you with an update regarding COVID-19 following recent information from the government.

Testing on return to school

All secondary school students have to be tested before they return to school and a schedule was issued to everyone before the Christmas holiday period. Please click on the link to see when each tutor group is due to attend for their test.

<https://www.tomlinscoteschool.com/attachments/download.asp?file=3907&type=pdf>

Students will return home after the test and should complete the work set for the day by using Google Classroom.

The DfE have stated that “even if someone has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are strongly encouraged to take part in LFD testing on-site once they have completed their isolation period for their prior infection”.

Face masks

We will continue to ensure that students wear face masks inside all communal areas, but the latest advice is that face coverings are to be worn in classrooms. The advice on face coverings in classrooms will be in place until Wednesday 26th January, at which point it will be reviewed. Please can you ensure that your child(ren) brings a face mask to school each day.

Changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

The advice is – “Since Wednesday 22nd December, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8”.

Close contacts of COVID-19

The advice is – “People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time”.

Remote learning procedures

Current high rates of COVID-19 means that we will probably have a large number of students absent from school. Teachers will ensure that work for their lesson is always on Google Classroom so that students completing remote learning will have access to the work. The big issue potentially may be the availability of enough staff on site. I will keep you updated if we need to initiate further remote learning but we intend to continue face to face teaching for as long as possible.

I hope this provides you with the latest information and I look forward to seeing everyone back in school for the new term

Your sincerely,

Mr R Major
Principal