

NRO/LHE

7 March 2022

Living with COVID

Dear parents and carers,

As you will be aware, the regulations for Covid-19 have changed since the government's ['Living with Covid Plan'](#) was published.

Here are some of the key changes you need to be aware of:

Self-isolation

- From Thursday 24 February, the government removed the **legal** requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, the latest guidance states that children and young people with COVID-19 **should not** attend their education setting while they are infectious. Anyone testing positive should take a test on day 5 (after their symptoms started or the day the test was taken if they did not have symptoms) and continue isolating until they have received two negative test results on consecutive days.
- If a parent or carer insists on a pupil with confirmed or suspected Covid attending, we will take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in our reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other students and staff from possible infection with Covid-19.
- Routine contact tracing has ended. Fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 are no longer be asked to test daily for seven days, and close contacts who are not fully vaccinated will no longer be required to self-isolate.

Testing

- The government has removed the guidance for staff and students to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing and school no longer receive deliveries of Covid test kits.
- Anyone with symptoms should take a PCR test, stay at home and follow government guidance if positive. People who have tested positive will continue to be advised to stay at home for five full days and then receive two negative test results on consecutive days before returning to their workplace or education setting.
- We will keep a small supply of PCR test kits in storage for families that may not be able to source test kits should they be sold in shops.
- All staff and students will continue to be able to access test kits from their local pharmacy or [online](#).
- Students who test positive should use any test kits they already have at home to undertake testing on days five and six, before returning to school if they test negative.

Remote education

- The regulations requiring education settings to provide remote learning to pupils isolating for Covid-related reasons cease on 24 March. Work will be provided on an individual basis through google classroom.

Additional Measures

- We continue to have onsite cleaners throughout the day to ensure to reduce transmission.
- Face masks are no longer required but staff and students can continue to do so if they wish to
- All face to face events, assemblies and meetings can resume in full. Ventilation will be considered when doing so.
- Sporting fixtures and trips can resume in full.

We expect the guidance to change again this half term and will write to you to confirm any changes.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Neil Rodgers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'R' at the end.

Mr Neil Rodgers
Executive Headteacher