



Scalby School

Wednesday 5th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are keeping well. As the new term starts you will have no doubt seen in the news that the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 is causing difficulties up and down the country. As new information is received by the school we will let you know how this impacts the day to day running of the school. Please take the time to read through this information and share with your son / daughter.

Rapid LFD Test on Return to School

Thank you if you provided consent for your child to undertake a LFD test. On Wednesday and Thursday this week we will be testing all students in school whose parents have provided consent. The conduct of students today has been excellent, I expect Year 8 & 9 students to respond in a similar way tomorrow.

Face Coverings

As was mentioned in the text sent on Tuesday, the government has asked that face coverings are to be worn indoors, including in classrooms, by all students and staff within a secondary school setting. This advice is in place until 26th January when Plan B guidance will be reviewed. We will communicate any changes as soon as we are informed by the DFE. I am pleased to say that the majority of students arrived at school this morning with masks. Please check your son / daughter has a suitable face covering with them before they leave the house in the morning. School has a limited stock of these but cannot sustain giving out large numbers of these every day. Your support in ensuring your son / daughter arrives with the appropriate protection is appreciated and will help limit transmission in our community. This will help ensure we can remain fully open for all year groups.

Change to Self-Isolation Period for Positive COVID Cases

The 10 day self-isolation period for anyone who records a positive PCR test result for Covid-19 has been reduced to 7 days. Students can now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of any self-isolation period. Self-isolation day 0 is the first day of symptoms, or the day of a positive LFD or PCR test if no symptoms were apparent. Please note the first LFD test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours



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apart. If both these test results are negative, and your child does not have a high temperature, they can end self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to school from day 7 rather than wait a full 10 days.

COVID-19 Lateral Flow Testing

Please continue to follow the twice weekly testing regime in order to minimise the risks of transmission in school. Students are being provided with more testing kits this week. If a lateral flow test is positive, your child should self-isolate following the government guidance. Contact tracing will continue to be undertaken by NHS Test & Trace. Please inform the school of any positive tests.

Updated Lateral Flow Guidance for students Identified as Close Contacts

From Tuesday 14th December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 was introduced. All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19. If they test negative, they can continue to attend school. The only exception to this is if a student develops symptoms. If a close contact does develop symptoms they should book in for a PCR test and self-isolate until the results of the PCR test are returned.

If your son /daughter tests positive on a lateral flow test, they should self-isolate and follow the national guidance relating to testing positive for COVID-19.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Mr C Robertson
Head of School