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Dear Parents and Carers

# **Return to College Guidance for Parents and Carers**

# Asymptomatic testing

Since 21 February, staff and students in mainstream secondary schools have no longer been expected to continue taking part in regular asymptomatic testing and should follow asymptomatic testing advice for the general population. Further information is available here: <u>NHS get tested for COVID-19 guidance</u>.

As a result of these new guidelines the College will no longer be able to provide LFD tests to students, however it is possible to order a pack of tests from here: <u>Order coronavirus (COVID-19)</u> rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

# **Isolation**

Although some legal requirements regarding Covid-19 have recently changed, the guidance remains clear that if a person has any of the main symptoms of Covid-19 or receives a positive test result, the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

- If your child has any of the main symptoms of Covid-19 (a recent onset of a new continuous cough; a high temperature; or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell) you should order them a PCR test. Your child should stay at home and avoid contact with other people while you wait for the test result. Please inform the College as soon as possible and let us know the outcome of the test.
- If your child's test result is positive, they should continue to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.
- If you can, you should inform people who have been in close contact with your child about their positive test result so that they may take appropriate precautions. Formal contact tracing has now ended.
- Your child should not attend school while they are infectious. On day five and day six of your child's isolation, it is possible for them to take a LFD test on both of these days (24 hours apart). Provided both tests are negative, they should return to school, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. Otherwise, they must continue to isolate until two negative test results are produced (24 hours apart) or they complete day 10 of their isolation and feel well enough to return to school.
- Children and young people who live with someone who has Covid-19 should continue to attend school as normal providing they do not have any symptoms or become unwell themselves.

• If we suspect that your child has Covid-19 or if they are sent back to school without completing the recommended isolation period, we reserve the right to send your child home in order to protect other students and staff from possible infection with Covid-19.

### Face coverings

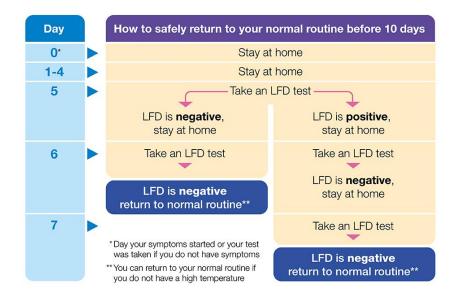
Face coverings are no longer required for students, staff and visitors in classrooms or communal areas. However, it is acceptable for anyone to choose to wear one if they feel more comfortable in doing so.

It would be sensible to continue to wear a face covering on public transport to and from school, where students may come into contact with people they do not normally meet.

#### **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory for all students of compulsory school age. This means it is your legal duty as a parent/carer to send your child to school regularly if they are registered at one. If you have concerns about your child attending, you should discuss these with the College.

### **Covid-19 Isolation Flow Chart**



### The College Site

We feel that this is also an appropriate time to adjust some of our procedures for moving around our College site and to reinstate certain routines as they were before the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, to enter our North Site building, students in Years 7-11 will now use the Student Entrance on the lower floor. The North Site Reception 'main entrance' is only to be used by staff, visitors and Sixth Form students. The one-way system will remain in place inside the buildings.

<u>What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges - GOV.UK</u> (www.gov.uk)

Yours faithfully

W. N. Jenkins

Wayne Jenkins Headteacher