

Our Ref: PRC/JYD

4 April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

You might be aware that Schools Covid-19 Operational Guidance was withdrawn on 1st April therefore I am writing to update you on the changes. We only received information from The UK Health Security Agency on Friday hence why this information is coming to you now. The main things you need to know are the following:

- Free COVID-19 tests are no longer available, other than for specific groups including NHS staff and eligible patients.
- Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature
 or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they
 feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high
 temperature.
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
- Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for five days, which is when they are most infectious.
- For children and young people aged 18 and under with a positive Covid-19, the advice will be three days.

The Government have produced this guidance for people with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19. The section below is particularly helpful:

When children and young people with symptoms should stay at home and when they can return to education

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting. Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

Preit Chahal Principal

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All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

It can be difficult to know when to seek help if your child is unwell. If you are worried about your child, especially if they are aged under 2 years old, then you should seek medical help. In addition, they have produced this guidance of living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19.

At school we will continue with the **cautious and considerate approach** that we have had in place in our COVID-19 risk assessment, such as encouraging good hand and respiratory hygiene and keeping spaces well ventilated. Students may of course continue to wear a face covering if they choose to. We will continue to work closely with the local and national public health bodies if we have concerns.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to share a very small snapshot of recent successes, which we are proud of. This is even more impressive than a normal year given this is in the backdrop of all the Covid disruption and academic pressures at this time of year:

- Key Stage 4 Girls NATIONAL Squash Champions
- Year 9 City League and City Cup Football winners
- Year 13 students continue to gain offers for places such as Oxford, Cambridge and London College of Music and for courses ranging from Medicine to Fashion Design.

Have a fantastic Easter break; we look forward to seeing all pupils back in school at the usual time on Monday 25^{th} April (Y11 - 08:30am, other year groups – 08:40am).

Yours faithfully,

Preit Chahal Principal