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28th January 2022

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Firstly, I hope that you and your family are all well. This letter is to outline the measures we are taking as a school in line with the latest government Covid-19 guidance. As a school our priority is to keep staff and students safe and we are doing our very best to ensure we continue face to face teaching. Below are some of the measures in line with the government guidance.

Face Coverings

Face coverings are no longer compulsory in classrooms or communal areas. Students may continue to wear a face mask if they wish to do so.

The following measures will be lifted from Monday 31st January:

PE Kit

Students will need to arrive in full school uniform even on days they have PE/Sports. They must bring the Yardleys PE kit with them on days they have a timetabled PE lesson.

Lunchtime, After School Clubs/Fixtures and Visitors

Lunchtime and after school sports fixtures/trips will resume as normal and we will allow visitors/parents on site. Reminder that parents need to sign their child up on Parent Pay in relation to any after school clubs. Any child who isn't signed up to Parent Pay will be sent a letter.

Wednesday Enrichment/Personal Development Session

Please note from Wednesday 2nd February we will resume our normal finish time on Wednesday (3:30pm). Wednesday sessions for this half term will all be Personal Development based for Y7-Y10. Y11 Maths and Science intervention will resume during this time.

Lateral Flow Device Testing (LFD)

We strongly encourage students to continue to do a LFD test twice a week, unless they have been identified as a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case, where it is recommended that students do an LFD test daily for seven days. From 11th January where a positive LFD result is received, a confirmatory PCR test won't be required.

Your child should self-isolate and not attend school in the following situations:

- 1. Your child has one of the three recognised symptoms of Covid-19, i.e. a new, continuous cough; a high temperature or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste (this means that you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal). They should take a PCR test and not return to school until they have a negative result, or if they receive a positive result they should isolate for 10 full days from their symptoms. New guidance enables the 10-day self-isolation period for people who have tested positive for Covid-19 to be reduced to 5 days, in most cases. If your child receives negative LFD results on day 5 and day 6 of their self-isolation period with tests taken 24 hours apart they will no longer have to self-isolate for the full 10 days and can return to school on day 6.
- 2. NHS Track and Trace contact you or your child to inform your child that they need to self-isolate at home.

3. Your child returns a positive Lateral Flow Test. If your child does return a positive Lateral Flow Test, they should isolate for 10 full days from the positive test. The guidance on ending the 10 day self-isolation period early for those who have tested positive. Also applies when testing positive via an LFD test.

Uniform

We continue to expect high standards of uniform from pupils and the vast majority of pupils meet our expected standards. However, we need to remind pupils that they need to wear black leather/leather look shoes (not boots, trainers or canvas shoes); loose fitting trousers or skirts to an appropriate length (no jeans, leggings or rolled up trousers); no jewellery other than plain stud earrings and no excessive makeup. Please see the school website for further information.

Parking Outside School

Please could parents and carers take care when parking outside of school. We have had several complaints from neighbours of cars blocking drive ways and other vehicle access points. This also creates a real danger to pedestrians including our children when they are leaving school or crossing the road.

Upcoming Dates/Events (Spring Term I)

Thursday 3 rd February 2022	Year 10 Parents' Evening – 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Thursday 10th February 2022	Year 7 Parents' Evening – 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Thursday 17th February 2022	Last day of term
Friday 18th - Friday 21st February 2022	Half term – school closed to pupils
Monday 28th February 2022	School re-opens to pupils

Please note all parents' evenings will be held remotely and further details will follow.

Thank you for your support and co-operation during these times.

Yours sincerely

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Neil Warner

Headteacher