

7 March 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are now a week into March and while the weather has been chilly it has been nice to see some sunshine.

You will be aware that the Covid regulations in the community have changed and schools are also changing their measures to reflect this and the declining case numbers.

We are now moving to a more flexible approach where we are able to change the measures in school depending on the number of cases in classes.

We have a traffic light system in place. We are hoping to spend most of our time in 'green' where the main measures in place are hand hygiene, ventilation, following guidance on self-isolation and continuing with lateral flow testing twice weekly for staff. If your child/young person is able to tolerate lateral flow tests please continue to test twice weekly, the DfE guidance states that this expectation remains in place for SEND settings. We are currently still able to provide tests so please let your child's teacher know if you need some. Visitors will also be expected to take a lateral flow test before coming into school. More information can be found

here https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1057037/20220223_SEND_guidance.pdf

We then have 'amber' and 'red' guidance which we can put into place when we see a significant number of cases in one class or area of the school - we will take advice from Public Health each time to support our decision making. Amber and red guidance include increased measures such as class bubbles, re-introducing mask wearing, reducing classes mixing for assemblies, lunches, etc. This has been advised by BCP and Public Health, full details can be found on the school website.

We are hoping that this will give us guidance which can remain in place while we, as a society, continue to learn to manage the risks of Covid 19.

We ask that you continue to follow the guidance around keeping your child off school if they have symptoms. More advice can be found here <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

We will continue to inform parents/carers if a child/young person develops symptoms during the school day.

Thank you for all your support over the last two years. If you have any questions about these latest updates please get in touch.

With warm regards,

Gemma Talbot (She/her)
Executive Headteacher