

27th February 2022

Dear parents and carers

I hope you are all well and have been able to enjoy the half-term break. As you will be aware, on Monday the government set out the next phase of their response to the Covid pandemic: '[Living with COVID-19](#)'. Following this announcement, I am just writing to confirm one or two key points relating to school this week and beyond. I have also included some reference to the conflict in Ukraine further down.

Positive Covid cases

Although the legal requirement to self-isolate has now been removed, students and staff who test positive for Covid are still advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days. They should continue to follow the guidance for self-isolation until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. Please continue to report positive Covid cases via the usual absence procedures in these cases.

Students and staff who have been in close contact with positive cases of Covid-19 are no longer required to take daily tests for 7 days and contact tracing has now ended.

We will continue to provide remote access lessons for those students forced to isolate as a result of contracting Covid.

Face coverings

Face coverings are no longer required in school, though anybody who wishes to continue to wear a face covering in school will be more than welcome to do so.

Testing

Staff and students are no longer required to carry out the twice-weekly asymptomatic testing that we have been doing for some time now.

Attendance

After the considerable disruption of the last two academic years, attendance to school has never been more important. Unless your child is at home as a result of testing positive for Covid or is unwell, please do all you can to make sure that your child is in school. Where possible, please make routine medical and dental appointments during the school holidays or out of school hours.

Conflict in Ukraine

On a very different note, I am sure that, like me, many of you have been watching with horror the events in Ukraine over the past few days and our hearts go out to the Ukrainian people. We will look to provide

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students with some more information on these events in due course but, in the meantime, I thought it would be worth sharing a couple of links:

- There is some useful advice for young people on what to do if they are upset by anything in the news here: [Advice if you're upset by the news - CBBC Newsround](#)
- As always, we need to encourage children to use reliable news sources (e.g., BBC, Sky News, Channel 4) and not to trust things they see on social media that are not reflected in reporting from these major news organisations. This link contains some examples of misleading images relating to the conflict in Ukraine that have been shared online over the past few days: [Ukraine conflict: Many misleading images have been shared online - BBC News](#)

We are all looking forward to welcoming back students tomorrow, Monday 28th February. Thank you in advance for all your support.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gwyn Williams', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gwyn Williams