

COVID Measures Update

Dear Parent/Carer,

As a result of a number of cases of Coronavirus in local community, in line with government guidance, we have reviewed our current COVID guidelines in school. As a result, I wanted to take the opportunity to confirm the actions we have had in place since the start of the academic year and also further measures we intend to take to ensure the ongoing health and well-being of the school community.

Personal Hygiene

We will continue to re-enforce the use of hand sanitisers in classrooms, encouraging students to sanitise on entry to all classrooms. Classrooms are cleaned at regular intervals. Students and staff should continue to adhere to the "catch it, kill it, bin it" process.

Asymptomatic Testing

The asymptomatic testing (LFD) at the start of the academic year allowed us to identify a small number of positive cases in school. We therefore plan to repeat this process again before October half term. If you have already given your consent in the last twelve months, there is no need for you to re-consent. For those who have not provided consent, if your consent was only verbal or if you are new to the school, please can you follow the link below to give your consent. <u>https://www.medenschool.co.uk/forms/testing_consent.php</u>

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of completing, twice weekly, LFD testing at home, with the kits provided by school. Should you require further kits please do not hesitate to ask. We recommend the tests are completed at home on Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

Positive Cases

If a student tests positive, at home or school, they should book and undertake a PCR test, at a Testing Centre. We will no longer have to send students home to isolate for being in close contact with someone who does test positive. Instead NHS Test and Trace will work with positive cases, identifying close contacts and provide further advice and guidance on next steps. This will allow schools to focus on delivering a high-quality education with minimal disruption.

Face Masks

A reminder that, whilst it is not mandatory for students to wear face masks around the school site, should students wish to wear them, this remains their right to do so. We would remind students of the potential benefits of wearing masks on school transport.

Assemblies

We will be temporarily suspending assemblies in school for all years. This will be reviewed again towards the end of this half term.

We thank you for your continued support throughout these challenging times, Kind Regards,

Mr J Smith Head of School

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