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Dear Parents and Carers

Re: COVID-19 Update

I hope you are keeping safe and well.

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday there have been some changes to the rules around self-isolation after testing positive for COVID-19, which come into force today.

In essence, nothing has really changed. Should your child test positive, you are advised to isolate as outlined in the paragraph below and you will need to inform the relevant Year Administrator.

Please note, the first day your child tests positive or the first day they experience COVID-19 symptoms will be day 0. On day 5 they should take a test and if this is negative, they take another test on the morning of day 6. If this is also negative they can return to school. If your child still tests positive on day 5 they must continue daily testing until they get two consecutive negative tests but if they continue to test positive they should not return until day 11 (After 10 days isolation). On day 11 they can return to school even if they are testing positive as long as they are well enough to attend.

Routine contact tracing will also come to an end and close contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or take daily tests. Fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 will no longer be required to test daily for 7 days and do not need to isolate. In addition, the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate has been removed.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and hope that you all stay well.

Yours sincerely

Ian Smyrk *Headteacher*