1 September 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

I hope you have had an enjoyable summer. I wanted to write to you ahead of the new academic year to bring you up to date with the changes that will be in place from September.

Testing and isolating will still play a role in how educational settings manage Covid-19 infections, so it is important that you familiarise yourself with the guidance below (ref: 26th August, Dr Rupert Suckling, Doncaster Council):

**Testing**

Testing continues to be important and, when pupils return to school, secondary age children will be asked to take two lateral flow tests (LFTs) at school, three to five days apart. They will then need to continue to test twice a week.

**Staggered start and finish times**

Staggered start and finish times will be ending.

**Make sure your child regularly washes their hands**

Regular hand washing still has an important part to play in reducing transmission of Covid-19. Please make sure that your child understands this and knows to wash their hands regularly.

**If your child has symptoms:**

If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms, they must stay at home. This means they must not attend school, see their friends, or visit family members outside of the household. They should go for a PCR test (available by calling 119 or visiting nhs.uk/coronavirus) and isolate while they wait for the results. Please inform school if your child has symptoms and the PCR result.

**If your child is identified as a contact of a positive Covid-19 case:**

If you are contacted by NHS Test & Trace, or by school, to tell you that your child has been identified as a close contact of a positive case, your child does not need to isolate. Instead, they should go for a PCR test and can continue to attend school while they wait for the results, as long as they have no symptoms and are well. If the test is positive or they develop symptoms, then they must begin isolation for ten days. Other members of the household are not required to isolate if they are fully vaccinated or are below the age of 18.

**Vaccination**

Getting fully vaccinated is the most important thing you and your family can do to help stop the spread of Covid-19 and, at the time of writing, vaccination is being offered to everyone over the age of 16- years-old and certain eligible 12–15-year-olds identified by GP practices.

To book a vaccine for your child, visit www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination, or they can attend a pop-up clinic without an appointment. Details of pop-up vaccination clinics in Doncaster can be found here: [www.doncasterccg.nhs.uk/covidvaxclinics/](http://www.doncasterccg.nhs.uk/covidvaxclinics/)

If you haven’t had your vaccine yet, or haven’t had your second dose, please arrange to do so as soon as you can by visiting www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination or calling 119 to book an appointment.

Thank you again for your support, and I wish you and your families a happy and healthy autumn term.

Yours sincerely



**Jane Goodman**

**Deputy Headteacher**