



29 October 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Returning to School - Covid 19

I hope you have all enjoyed the half term break and stayed safe and well. You will be aware that COVID 19 is still in our communities so we need to remain cautious. On returning to school I would just like to remind you how you can all help to keep your families safe and the school running as normally as possible as we move into the winter. Our three main mitigation measures in school are not onerous but if we all adhere to them, they clearly make and have made a difference. They are Testing, Ventilation and Hygiene.

Testing

Please ensure, as students, that you take a Lateral Flow Test on Sunday evening/ Monday morning and record the result with the NHS. If you have a **positive** result please **do not** attend school. If you are in years 7-11, parents should contact Matron 01628 816545, nday@swbgs.com before 8.40 a.m. on Monday; that way she can communicate with staff to invite students to googlemeets. For sixth formers, the relevant Student Support Team member should be contacted Mrs Fortnam 816507 lfortnam@swbgs.com Mrs Bull/Mrs Furley hbull@swbgs.com /efurley@swbgs.com 816520.

All students should then continue testing **twice weekly** for the rest of this half term on a Wednesday night/ Thursday morning and Sunday night/ Monday morning to minimise the risk of bringing COVID 19 on to the school site.

Students who have tested positive recently

The latest guidance states, if you have tested positive for Covid-19 via a PCR test within 90 days, you should not take a lateral flow test as this may return a positive test even if you are not infectious.

Students who have symptoms

If any student has COVID 19 symptoms they **should not** come to school.

Symptoms

- A new, continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Students with symptoms or with a positive LFT should self isolate and take a PCR Test and contact Matron/ your Student Support Officer when you receive the result. Students should **not attend school** if they feel unwell in any way; we do not expect or advise poorly students to join googlemeet classes.

If a student has a positive test result but does not have symptoms, they should stay at home and self-isolate **for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken**. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) or by calling 119.

Close Contacts

You are no longer [required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19](#) and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated
- you are **below the age of 18 years 6 months**
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Fully vaccinated means that you have been vaccinated with an MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK, and at least 14 days have passed since you received the recommended doses of that vaccine.

NHS Test and Trace will contact you to let you know that you have been identified as a contact and check whether you are legally required to self-isolate. If you are not legally required to self-isolate, you will be provided with advice on testing and given guidance on preventing the spread of COVID-19. Even if you do not have symptoms, [you will be advised to have a PCR test as soon as possible](#).

Any member of the household who is aged 18 years and 6 months or over and has only received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine or has not received any dose of the COVID-19 vaccination will still be required to self-isolate as household contact of a someone with COVID-19 symptoms awaiting testing and someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Please read the [stay at home guidance](#) which provides information on this.

Ventilation and Hygiene

We ask staff and students to ensure windows are open to keep airflow in classrooms and we encourage everyone to spend time in the fresh air when they have the opportunity. Students should wash their hands regularly, particularly before eating and use hand sanitizer if washing is not possible. There is hand sanitizer on the site but we ask students to carry their own personal bottle. Everyone should carry tissues, or a handkerchief to catch any sneeze/cough.

Vaccinations

I attach [this open letter](#) to Headteachers for parents from the secretary of state, Nadhim Zahawi with advice on vaccinations for children aged 12-15. For parents and students who missed out on vaccinations they can still organise this at any time. There is information [here](#).

Masks - We do not currently require students to wear masks but we still ask them to carry them in case they are in a situation where this is a sensible precaution. Students and staff who wish to wear masks at any point may do this.

We will constantly review our measures across the half term and respond as advised to recommendations from our Bucks health team if we have increased cases at school.

Thank you very much everyone for your support in keeping the school safe and open,

Best wishes,

Kay Mountfield,
Headteacher