



January 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Families,

Happy New Year and I hope that you have had a positive start to 2022 and that you and your families remained safe and well over the holiday period.

I wanted to thank you for supporting us in keeping your schools safe. You have all shared stories of using regular testing and taking sensible precautions to protect you and your families from the virus. This has resulted in a positive start to term in most schools in our Trust family.

We really appreciate the regular testing, wearing masks on the playground and supporting the measures we have in place. As you may now be aware the need for PCR tests after a positive LFT has now been suspended so if your child has a positive LFT you do not need to get a PCR test.

Once positive you can now test on Day 6 and 24 hours later on Day 7. If both tests are negative and if your child is well enough, they can come back to school on Day 7.

We do have increasing numbers of staff who are off poorly and some of those will be affected for longer periods of time. We are also anticipating that the staff will continue to contract COVID-19 and may suffer long covid as the term goes on. We appreciate that it can be unsettling for parents if your child's teacher is off and there are cover teachers in place.

We are doing all we can to support absence, but the reality is Covid-19 is going to result in high staff absence this term and I wanted to prepare you for this. In the Autumn Term over 30% of teachers and support staff were absent due to Covid reasons and this will continue.

Sadly, this is out of our control, and we are doing all we can to minimise the impact on your child. Supply teachers are in short supply, and we are doing all that we can to keep learning face to face. I cannot promise that this will continue and if staffing levels become critical, we may need to close some classes for periods of time.

We will of course provide remote learning but if the class teacher is ill, this will not be live streaming as we will not have the staffing to do this.

Your actions with regular testing, vaccination and boosting, wearing masks and taking precautions in the community will help avoid this and I cannot thank you enough.

Your Head Teachers will continue to keep you updated on any guidance changes. The changes are fast paced, and we appreciate it can feel like overload so please do contact your child's school if you are not sure about any of the guidance, we are happy to help in any way we can.

As always, thank you for supporting your child's academy and community in this difficult time.

Best wishes,



Tracey Cleverly
Trust Lead

