Dear Parents/Carers



# Re: Changes to contact tracing in education and childcare settings

As you know, the Prime Minister announced on 12th July that Step 4 of the roadmap would go ahead from the 19th July 2021.

One of the key changes that took place from 19<sup>th</sup> July is that education and childcare settings will no longer be asked to conduct routine contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case – or in the case of children – the parents, carers, or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts.

NHS Test and Trace already manages the contact tracing process for the rest of society – including children who have recorded a positive PCR test – and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts.

This letter contains in more detail how that process will work and what you need to do if you or your child tests positive for COVID-19.

### Self-Isolation rules from 16 August 2021

- Close contacts (including members of the same household) who do not have any symptoms and are fully vaccinated (two doses and 14 days since the second dose) or under 18 no longer need to self-isolate.
- All close contacts are advised to take a PCR test. They do not need to self-isolate while awaiting results.

#### What do I do if ...?

#### My child has symptoms of COVID19?

- 1. The child isolates immediately and takes a PCR test as soon as possible.
- 2. If the result of the **PCR is positive**, the child should complete the period of ten full days of isolation and parents/carers should let the school know. NHS Test and Trace will undertake contact tracing.
- 3. If the result of the **PCR is negative**, but child has had symptoms of an illness and no-one else in the household has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID, they can stop isolating and return to school as soon as they feel well.
- 4. If they have had vomiting or diarrhoea, they should remain at home for 48 hours after these symptoms stop.

#### My child is well but records a positive Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test?

- 1. The child isolates immediately and takes a **PCR** test as soon as possible.
- 2. If the result of the **PCR is positive**, the child should complete the period of isolation and parents/carers should let the school know. NHS Test and Trace will undertake contact tracing.
- 3. If the result of the **PCR** is negative, your child can stop isolating and return to school.



## I (a parent/carer) have symptoms or records a positive Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test?

- 1. Isolate immediately and take a **PCR** test as soon as possible.
- 2. Members of your household who are well and are fully vaccinated or under 18 do not need to self-isolate. If your child(ren) is well, they should continue to attend school.
- 3. If the result of your PCR is positive, you should complete the ten full days of isolation. NHS Test and Trace will undertake contact tracing.
- 4. If the result of the PCR is negative, you can stop isolating. Full government guidance for households with possible of confirmed COVID-19 infection can be found <u>here</u>.

## Remote education if your child cannot attend school

We will provide remote education for school-aged children who are unable to attend school due to following government guidance or law relating to COVID-19 (for example if they are asked to self-isolate, or if they have tested positive but are well enough to learn from home).

The class teacher will provide remote learning 24 hours after the first day of recorded absence. This will be equivalent in length to the core teaching your child would usually get in school.

Our remote learning offer is detailed on our school website <a href="here">here</a>.

Further guidance is available <u>here</u> to help you support your child while they are learning from home.

Yours sincerely

Scott Nicholls Head of School

