



25th February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

UPDATE ON SELF-ISOLATION GUIDANCE: Living with COVID-19

As you will be aware on Monday 21 February, the Prime Minister announced plans for living with COVID-19 in England. We are looking forward to welcoming your child back to school on Monday 28th February and wanted to be clear on what to expect when we return.

Can I get a lateral flow test kit from school?

No. There is no longer a requirement for staff or pupils of mainstream secondary schools to do Lateral Flow Tests twice weekly. Schools will no longer be provided with test kits for this purpose.

What control measures must school have in place?

As a school community, we have a collective responsibility to work together to protect those most vulnerable whilst also protecting face-to-face education for our children and young people.

This means educational establishments still need to continue with **control measures**:

1. Ensuring good hygiene for everyone (hand hygiene & respiratory hygiene)
2. Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes
3. Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated
4. Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

Do I have to self-isolate if I have symptoms?

Yes. Whilst this is no longer a legal requirement to do so, Public Health advice is to self-isolate and book a PCR test if you have the following symptoms of COVID-19:

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

Telephone the school and let us know your child has symptoms and is self-isolating.

Do I have to self-isolate if I test positive for COVID-19?

Yes. Whilst there is no longer a legal requirement to do so, Public Health advice is to self-isolate.

From Thursday 24 February 2022, the **legal** requirement to self-isolate following a positive test has been removed. **However, Public Health advice is that any staff or student who tests positive should be advised to self-isolate for at least 5 days.** If two consecutive lateral flow tests return a negative result on Day 5 and Day 6 then the individual can return to school. However, if they do not return negative test results on the 5th and 6th day, they should be strongly advised to continue to stay at home until they have returned 2 negative results. Regardless of test results, they can return to school on the 11th day.

Telephone the school and let us know your child has tested positive and is self-isolating.



Do I need to inform the school if my child tests positive or has symptoms?

Yes. Continue as we have been doing for the last two years. Covid-19 is a notifiable disease and as a school we must continue to report any positive cases to Public Health. If your child receives a positive test result or is showing symptoms you must not send them to school. Please contact the school on 01262 672593 or email office@bridlingtonschool.org.uk and we will do all we can to help.

Does my child have to wear a face covering?

No. It is optional. The routine wearing of **face coverings** in classrooms and communal areas is no longer required under normal circumstances.

Have the entrance gates changed?

No. Students will still enter through their designated year gates. This is now a permanent feature of the school.

Has the School Day / Staggered Timetable changed?

No. The school day remains the same until Easter.

After Easter the staggered timetable will be removed.

The DfE ambition is that all schools will return to their core hours as we shift to 'Live with COVID-19'. From Monday 25th April 2022 the school will return to its published core hours from the Summer Term onwards as below:

- Tutor Time: 8.30 - 8.45 (15 mins)
- Period 1: 8.45 - 9.45
- Period 2: 9.45 - 10.45
- Break: 10.45 - 11.05 (20 mins needed to get all students through)
- Period 3: 11.05 - 12.05
- Period 4: 12.05 - 1.05
- Lunch 1.05 - 1.45 (20 minutes first sitting and second sitting)
- Period 5 1.45 - 2.45
- Period 6: Extra Curricular 2.45pm

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THE SCHOOL DAY WILL END AT 2.45pm FROM MONDAY 25th APRIL ONWARDS.

The whole school will follow the same timetable. The start of the school day remains the same, the entrance gates remain the same but break and lunch will be extended slightly and students will use their designated canteen in allocated time slots.

Uniform:

Classrooms are no longer cold. As we start the second half of the school year, all students will be expected to remove their coats / additional jumpers.

Jewellery - We do not allow students to wear jewellery, except for one stud per ear for those with pierced ears. No other body piercings are allowed including clear bars and studs.

Trousers - Full length plain black school trousers (no badge required). o Students cannot wear: leggings, sportswear, stretch fabric, short / cropped trousers, jeans, chinos, trousers with coloured belts, gold or silver zips.

Trainers - Shoes / trainers: Low heeled, plain black (eg. no coloured flashes, coloured soles or logos).



School Shoes from September 2022. Please be aware the rules on school shoes were relaxed for academic year 2020/2021 and given the ongoing impact of Covid-19 we extended this in the spirit of supporting our parents/ carers, for this academic year up to July 2022. This will be the last year we will accept plain black trainers as well as school shoes. From September 2022 we will return to school shoes and NO TRAINERS will be allowed.

Vaccinations for young people:

The NHS school nurse team will be visiting the school on the following dates:

- Wednesday 2nd March – age 16 and over and staff Covid vaccinations (Online consent form has been shared with eligible parents / carers)

Finally thanks again for all your support in helping us limit the transmission of Covid-19 and allow students to maximise their attendance at school. We are very much looking forward to returning to more normal operations within school this half term with a full return to normal in the Summer Term.

Yours sincerely,



Kate Parker-Randall
Headteacher

