30 November 2021



WEAVERS ACADEMY Creative Education

Dear Parent/Carer

As you are aware the COVID regulations in schools have changed again recently, as ever we continue to use the most up to date guidance to inform our decisions in school. The summary of the new guidance can be seen below:

Changes to Face Coverings:

Face coverings help protect the wearer and others against the spread of infection because they cover the nose and mouth, the main confirmed sources of transmission of COVID-19.

Where pupils in year 7 and above are educated, it is now recommended that face coverings should be worn by pupils, staff and adult visitors when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas. This is a temporary measure.

Pupils should also wear a face covering when travelling on public transport and dedicated transport to and from school. We do not advise that pupils and staff wear face coverings in classrooms, however if they wish to they can.

As always, we value your support in keeping the community safe and if you can send students in with enough face masks to last the day it will be beneficial for everyone. We have a limited supply of face masks at the gate and student office each day for exceptional circumstances.

Changes to Contact Tracing Guidelines:

All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will be contacted directly and required to self-isolate immediately and asked to book a PCR test. They will be informed by the local health protection team or NHS Test and Trace if they fall into this category and provided details about self-isolation.

For everyone else, isolation rules are unchanged. Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, and any of the following apply:

- · they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months





Asymptomatic Testing:

Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within schools. Secondary school pupils should continue to test twice weekly at home, with lateral flow device (LFD) test kits, 3-4 days apart. <u>Testing remains voluntary but is strongly encouraged for everyone</u> and we will be giving out tests today and tomorrow in school. There is also a supply in reception.

As ever we value your support in keeping the community safe and if you can send students in with enough face masks to last the day it will be beneficial for everyone. We have a limited supply of face masks at the gate and student office each day for exceptional circumstances.

If you have any questions regarding this information please contact us at: wea-enquiries@weaversacademy.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Sexsmith Assistant Principal