

Date: 4th January 2022
Our Ref: EME/sjc



KIBWORTH MEAD ACADEMY

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Principal: Mrs E Merry

Dear Parent/Carer

Happy New Year!

We are looking forward to having all our students back on Wednesday 5th January after the lateral flow testing on site on Tuesday 4th January. This will help to reduce transmission after a period of social mixing during the holidays. After this, we ask you to continue testing children twice weekly at home and to report all results to NHS Test and Trace. **All children are expected to attend school** unless they test positive and are required to self-isolate as a result (see new guidance on self-isolation below).

Schools have also received new government advice which you will have heard about on the national news. The government is now recommending **that face coverings are worn in classrooms** in secondary schools, unless exempt. Before the Christmas break, government guidance recommended face coverings in corridors and communal areas. The advice on face coverings in classrooms will be in place until Wednesday 26th January, when the government will review its guidance.

Last term, we really appreciated your support in implementing the guidance around wearing face coverings in corridors and communal areas. I know we will be able to rely on your support as we implement this new guidance with students wearing face coverings in classrooms. Please send your child to school with two masks (as one may become wet or otherwise unwearable during the course of the day). If they are re-usable face coverings, we advise that students bring them in sealable plastic bags. We will provide some as appropriate.

Information on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Since Wednesday 22nd December, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period, and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. If both these test results are negative, and your child does not have a high temperature, they may end their self-isolation after the second negative test result and **return to school from day 8**.



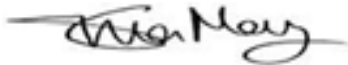
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343 Gypsy Lane, Leicester, LE4 9DD

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

It is also advised that children identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. NHS Track and Trace will contact close contacts.

We will update our risk assessment soon, and this will be available for parents to see on our website. We will fully guide our students in these new arrangements. The overriding priority for us is to keep our staff and students safe and to keep the school open. Your support with these new arrangements will be critical to this. If you have any questions relating to our arrangements, please email us.

Yours faithfully



MRS EMMA MERRY
Executive Principal



MR SIMON RENSHAW
Head of School