



# Heworth Grange School

*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*

Monday 29th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the Government announcements yesterday, you will be aware that there have been further changes in relation to COVID restrictions and regulations. As always, we review all the systems that we have in place in school as soon as we have updated information from the Department for Education (DfE). I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the changes that will take place in school from today, Monday 29th November following that DfE guidance.

From today masks must be worn by students and staff in ALL communal areas i.e. anywhere and at any time outside the classroom, students do not need to wear a mask whilst they are outside. Masks have been given to all students today, but students should bring their own in from tomorrow. Students who have a medical exemption will be provided with a card. Please note that from tomorrow, students who use public transport to get to school will be required to wear a mask. Visitors who already have appointments to come into school today should still come in but will be required to wear a mask.

COVID routines around hygiene and hand sanitising and ventilation in classrooms have remained in place throughout and these have not changed. COVID testing is not provided by the school this should still be done twice weekly at home for all students who have chosen to participate with the results reported to the NHS via the app. Parents/Carers should contact their chemist or GP for information about where to obtain free Lateral Flow testing kits. Below is a reminder of the DfE instructions for students and isolation:

**'Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible. This still applies even if you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine. If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you should stay at home and self-isolate. If you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months you are not required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID – 19'**

The information has been updated for those in contact with a suspected case of the new Omicron variant who 'must self-isolate, regardless of their vaccination status'.

We will continue to monitor and adjust our school routines in line with the latest Department for Education guidance and statutory requirements and update you as soon as we have that information. Please remain assured that the safety and wellbeing of our students will always remain our highest priority.

Yours sincerely,

Martyn Searles  
Assistant head teacher