

Friday 14 January

Dear parent/carer,

REPORTING ABSENCE RELATED TO COVID-19 - UPDATED 14.01.22

There has been a further update to the government guidance regarding isolation for positive COVID cases. This guidance comes into effect from **Monday 17 January 2022**. The changes relate to when a student can come out of isolation after receiving a positive test (LFT or PCR). Please see the updated guidance below, changes are highlighted in yellow.

Please continue to report any COVID-19 related absences through the form that can be found at <https://bit.ly/oahcovid>.

Upon completing this form, if you provide an email address you will receive an email that contains information detailing what you need to do next including any testing dates and return dates to school where applicable. The information provided in the email follows the national guidance that is provided by Public Health Wakefield. This guidance is detailed below:

Students currently isolation due to a positive test result

- If a student is currently isolating due to a positive test result, they can now test on day 5 and 6. If these tests are negative the student can then return to school the same day. We strongly advise that the day 6 test is taken on the morning before school to allow the student to return to school on time if negative. To achieve this we strongly advise you take the day 5 test prior to 8:20am to allow 24 hours before the day 6 test.
- If either test is positive, students should continue to test daily and if they have two consecutive negative LFT tests they can then return to school the same day. If two consecutive negative tests cannot be achieved, they should isolate for the full 10 days and then return to school.

Student has no symptoms but tests positive on an LFT

- If a student tests positive on an LFT but does not have symptoms, they no longer need to complete a PCR test, the student should immediately isolate.

- Students should then complete an LFT test on day 5 and 6 from the positive test result, these tests should be 24 hours apart. If these tests are negative, the student can then return to school the same day. We strongly advise that the day 6 test is taken on the morning before school to allow the student to return to school on time if negative. To achieve this we strongly advise you take the day 5 test prior to 8:20am to allow 24 hours before the day 6 test.
- If either test is positive, students should continue to test daily and if they have two consecutive negative LFT tests they can then return to school the same day. If two consecutive negative tests cannot be achieved, they should isolate for the full 10 days and then return to school.

Student has symptoms of COVID-19

- A COVID-19 symptom is a high temperature, new continuous cough or a loss or change of sense of smell or taste. If a student is unwell, but does not present these symptoms, they **should not** get a PCR test.
- If a student has one of these symptoms of COVID-19 they should isolate and a PCR test should be booked.
- If the PCR result is negative then the student should return to school.
- If the PCR result is positive then the student should then complete an LFT test on day 5 and 6 from the date of the symptoms, these tests should be 24 hours apart. If these tests are negative, the student can then return to school the same day. We strongly advise that the day 6 test is taken on the morning before school to allow the student to return to school on time if negative. To achieve this we strongly advise you take the day 5 test prior to 8:20am to allow 24 hours before the day 6 test.
- If either test is positive, students should continue to test daily and if they have two consecutive negative LFT tests they can then return to school the same day. If two consecutive negative tests cannot be achieved, they should isolate for the full 10 days and then return to school.

Positive case from a PCR test within the household

- If someone in the household of a student tests positive for COVID from a PCR test, the guidance we are following from Public Health Wakefield is that students should isolate for 5 days.
- We strongly advise that students complete a LFT test everyday for these five days, and if all of these tests are negative they should then return to school.
- If an LFT test is positive and the student has no symptoms, they should then continue to isolate. Students should then complete an LFT test on day 5 and 6 from the positive test result, these tests should be 24 hours apart. If these tests are negative, the student can then return to school the same day. We strongly advise that the day 6 test is taken on the morning before school to allow the student to return to school on time if negative. To

achieve this we strongly advise you take the day 5 test prior to 8:20am to allow 24 hours before the day 6 test.

- If either test is positive, students should continue to test daily and if they have two consecutive negative LFT tests they can then return to school the same day. If two consecutive negative tests cannot be achieved, they should isolate for the full 10 days and then return to school.
- If the student has symptoms at any point whilst isolating a PCR test should be booked. If the PCR is negative then the student can return to school, if it is positive, then the student should then complete an LFT test on day 5 and 6 from the positive test result, these tests should be 24 hours apart. If these tests are negative, the student can then return to school the same day. We strongly advise that the day 6 test is taken on the morning before school to allow the student to return to school on time if negative. To achieve this we strongly advise you take the day 5 test prior to 8:20am to allow 24 hours before the day 6 test.

If for any reason you are unable to complete the electronic form, you can report absence in the usual way by emailing attendance@hemworth.outwood.com or calling the academy on 01977 624220.

If you have any further questions regarding the advice you have been given, please contact the academy using contact information detailed above.

Yours sincerely,



Ben Barnes
Assistant Principal