

Update...

28TH February 2022

Dear Parent,

We hope you have had a relaxing half term break and survived the storm! Sadly we lost one of our beautiful Horse Chestnut trees and some fencing from the edge of the field. We hope to plant replacements in the gaps as part of the Queens Platinum Jubilee canopy planting.

Living with COVID-19

On 21 February the Prime Minister set out the next phase of the Government's COVID19 response. COVID-19 continues to be a virus that we learn to live with and the imperative to reduce the disruption to education remains.

Control Measures still in place at the academy

- Encourage good hygiene for everyone
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19
- A broad arrival window
- Staggered break and lunchtimes

Face Coverings

Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors in classrooms or communal areas. Pupils, staff and visitors who feel more comfortable wearing face coverings may continue to do so.

Hygiene

Frequent and thorough hand cleaning is still our best defence. Pupils and staff should clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser. We are no longer sanitising our pupils hands on arrival at the academy. They may choose to use the sanitiser provided, or of course, bring their own. The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important. Pupils are advised to keep their own tissues handy for this.

Asymptomatic testing

From 21 February, staff and pupils will not be expected to continue taking part in regular (twice weekly) asymptomatic testing.

What to do if you have Covid symptoms

Whilst there is no longer a *legal* requirement for people with Covid-19 to self-isolate, if you have any of the main symptoms or a positive test result, **the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.** The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you have any of these symptoms you should order a PCR test. You are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while you are waiting for the test result. Anyone with a positive test should stay at home until they test negative for 2 consecutive days, starting on day 5.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Emma Wilkes
Head teacher



OAKFIELD ACADEMY
BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE



Oakfield Academy
Frome

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