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"We grow together, we learn together, we will achieve our best together"

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4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring Term 2022. I hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and wish you a very Happy New Year.

We are all looking forward to welcoming our children and young people back into school tomorrow and I am writing to reassure you of the additional measures that have been put in place in order to reduce the spread of COVID across PCA.

All staff and pupils of secondary and sixth form age have been asked to take a lateral flow test before returning to school. We would ask that they continue to test twice weekly. Please ensure that you inform school of any positive test results as soon as possible.

The new Government guidance states individuals may now take lateral flow tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results and do not have a temperature are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. These pupils may therefore return to school on day 8.

Where appropriate, staff will also be wearing face masks around school and in the classrooms. Any secondary and sixth form pupil who is comfortable wearing a mask will also be encouraged to do so when inside the school building and also on transport. Visitors into school will be limited and will also need to wear a face mask.

Please can we request that parents and carers socially distance when on the school grounds and also do not arrive at school before 8.40am and 2.55pm in order to reduce the number of people on the school site at one time. If you need to arrive before 8.40am please could I ask that you wait on the path outside the school gates to allow all staff to enter the building in a safe and socially distanced way.

We will continue to implement class bubbles and minimise movement around school until Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January at the earliest. High levels of cleaning will be maintained across the site and pupils will continue to access their own individual stationary packs. We would ask that pupils continue to come to school in their kit on PE day as we will not be using shared changing facilities.

I am hopeful that after school clubs and youth club will be able to resume from Monday 17th January. However, this will be reviewed depending on levels of infection and staff absence across school at that time.

If your child does display symptoms please inform us, keep them off school and book a PCR test immediately. **However I must stress that school attendance remains mandatory for all pupils, unless they are unwell, displaying Covid symptoms or attending a medical appointment.** We would also encourage all eligible young people to get their COVID vaccine when it becomes available.

Please do not hesitate to contact school should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Many thanks for your continued support in managing this ongoing situation.

Mrs Hughes  
Headteacher



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