



Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Happy new year! We hope the start of 2022 has been a good one so far. It is lovely to be back with the pupils in school and we are looking forward to a busy term filled with exciting learning opportunities.

We also find ourselves starting yet another term dealing with restrictions and changes due to the developing situation with COVID and the new variant, and so I just wanted to let you know of the most recent guidance from the Department for Education:

*Confirmatory PCR testing following a positive result on a lateral flow device (LFD) will be temporarily suspended from today, Tuesday 11 January. This means that for all education and childcare settings, staff and students who have tested (either at home or through ATS) and reported a positive LFD result will no longer be advised to get a confirmatory PCR test. Education and childcare settings are not expected to trace contacts of a positive case as this will remain the responsibility of NHS Test and Trace. From today, Tuesday 11 January, contact tracing is triggered once a positive LFD test is reported.*

We know that the changing advice and recommendations may be confusing, so should you have any questions or concerns please contact the school. If your child is not attending school, **for any reason**, we ask that you inform the school by phone before 9am, and either speak to Mrs McCormick or leave a message giving details or reasons why they will not be able to attend.

We have made the decision to postpone our planned parental engagement activities, such as stay and pray or class assemblies for the month of January at least, until we can have a clearer idea of infection rates etc. It was so lovely to be able to share such special events before Christmas with you all, and we will ensure that we can resume similar opportunities as soon as it is possible. In the meantime, we will continue to share the children's learning and events in school via our Twitter and Facebook platforms.

We hope and pray that the restrictions and ongoing situation comes to an end soon and that you and your families remain safe and well.

Kindest regards

Ms L Smith  
**Head of School**

*Welcome - Love - Inspire - Respect - Patience - Community*

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