



**George Stephenson**  
High School

3 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

The first few days of the new school year have gone very well. The vast majority of our young people have come in for an LFD test over the last three days and Year 7, 10 and 11 have settled in well.

We look forward to welcoming all of our students back to school on Monday. If you do have any home test kits left, please encourage your child to take one on Sunday evening. All students will be given an on-site LFD test again next week and we will then send them home with some home-testing kits.

Please find attached a leaflet from the government about the return to school and what to do if your child has symptoms.

The Government has made it a national priority that education and childcare settings should continue to operate as normally as possible during the rest of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The overarching objective is to maximise the number of children and young people in face-to face education or childcare and minimise any disruption, in a way that best manages the COVID-19 risk.

A summary of some of the key information in this leaflet is below:

### **What should I do if my child has COVID-19 symptoms?**

If your child has any of the main COVID-19 symptoms (a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste), they should not attend school or college and should stay at home.

You should arrange for them to get a PCR test and tell your child's school or college the test results. Your child should not attend school or college while you are waiting for test results, even if they are feeling better.

If the test is negative, they should go to school or college as normal.

If they test positive, they should continue to isolate and follow public health advice.

Confirmed cases are legally required to isolate.

## **What happens if my child has been in contact with someone with COVID-19 symptoms?**

If your child has been identified as a close contact, you will be advised that your child takes a PCR test.

They will NOT have to self-isolate, unless they have a positive PCR test result.

Contacts who are double vaccinated or under 18 do not need to isolate but will be encouraged by NHS Test and Trace to seek a PCR test. They do NOT need to isolate while they await their result.

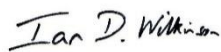
If someone you live with has symptoms of COVID-19, or has tested positive for COVID-19, you will not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS
- **you're under 18 years, 6 months old**
- you're taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Even if you do not have symptoms, you should still:

- get a PCR test on GOV.UK to check if you have COVID-19
- follow advice on how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19
- consider limiting contact with people who are at higher risk from COVID-19

Yours faithfully



IAN D WILKINSON - Headteacher