



28 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have all enjoyed a restful half term break. It was lovely to welcome all students back to school this morning.

I am writing to update you on the most recent Covid-19 guidance for schools from the Department of Education following the Prime Minister's announcement regarding the end of a number of Covid-19 restrictions.

Students and staff are no longer expected to take part in asymptomatic testing. This means that students and staff no longer have to test themselves twice a week.

The guidance for those who test positive for Covid-19 has changed. There is no longer a legal requirement for people with coronavirus (COVID-19) infection to self-isolate. However if you have any of the main COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result, the public health advice is still to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

If your child has any of the main symptoms of Covid-19 we would ask that you keep them at home and order a PCR test. If your child tests positive then they should remain at home and you should inform school of the positive result. Please notify school by emailing [northallerton@arete.uk](mailto:northallerton@arete.uk)

There is no longer a legal requirement to self-isolate, however the government advice is still for anyone with Covid 19 to stay at home until they are no longer infectious and to use lateral flow tests to check this. We expect all children who test positive to remain at home for at least five days from the onset of symptoms.

Your child should take a lateral flow test from the fifth and sixth days after their symptoms started, or the day their PCR test was taken if they did not have symptoms. If both these test results are negative, they should return to school, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. If they continue to test positive, they should remain at home. More information and advice can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school. This new phase of the pandemic is one where we are all adapting to live with the virus which I hope will result in a gradual return to a feeling of normality. I will write to you again if there are any further changes to the current guidance.

Best wishes

Vicki Rahn  
Head of School  
Northallerton School & Sixth Form College