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Monday 03 January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

### **Updated COVID-19 Arrangements for start of term**

I hope that you have had a relaxing break. As we prepare to return to school over the coming days, I would like to update you on recent changes to COVID-19 arrangements in school to help limit the spread of the Omicron variant.

You will be aware, that all secondary school students have the option to undertake one on-site test, on return in January. Arrangements for this and the staggered return of students in January can be found on the [academy website](#). If you have not provided consent for on site testing you can do so by [following this link](#). Even if your child has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are strongly encouraged to take part in on-site testing once they have completed their isolation period for their prior infection.

**Testing your child before they return to school will help reduce transmission after a period of social mixing during the holidays.**

Students are strongly encouraged to continue testing twice weekly at home and to [report all results to NHS Test and Trace](#) and if found positive, to the academy. Test kits will be provided to all students who take part in on site testing at the start of term.

**Information on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19**

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, **unless you cannot test for any reason.**

Students may now take lateral flow tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. **If your child's test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, they may end their self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to school from day 8.**

### **Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19**

Children and young people aged between 11 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, **should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.**

### **Wearing of Face Coverings**

**From Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January it is recommended that face coverings are worn in classrooms for all Year 7 – 13 students.** The advice is short term only, to support pupils and teachers as they return to school this term and builds on the guidance that recommends face coverings for all adults in communal areas of all schools.

We will continue to provide regular updates as we move towards and into the start of term.

All staff at Nottingham Academy wish you and your families a very happy 2022.

Yours Sincerely,



Harry French

**Principal.**