



4th April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Update from the Principals: Guidance for managing COVID-19 in education settings

We have recently been issued with updated guidance detailing the government's plans for 'Living with COVID-19'. We wanted to explain this in the context of Minsthorpe Community College.

Living with COVID-19

It is no longer a legal requirement to self-isolate for people who test positive for COVID -19, however, we are asking students to follow the guidance from the DfE below:

- Students who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- Students with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days, which is when they are most infectious.
- Students who live with someone who has Covid-19 should continue to attend their education setting as normal.

Please inform the College in the normal way, if your child is absent due to COVID-19 or indeed any other authorised reason.

Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs)

The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk. Regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education setting. Therefore, the College will no longer be able to order test kits.

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Principals Mark Gilmore & Rachael Merritt



Measures to reduce transmission of COVID-19

It is our priority to maintain face-to-face education. You should feel reassured that we will be maintaining the following measures to reduce the transmission of COVID-19:

- Well-ventilated classrooms and indoor spaces
- Good hand hygiene through regular use of hand sanitiser and antibacterial wipes
- Regular cleaning of the site

Face coverings are no longer needed on site, but staff or students may choose to wear one if they wish. We ask that students are considerate of the wellbeing and safety of others at this time.

Easter Break

We have had another exciting half term here at Minsthorpe. Events such as World Book Day, National Careers Week and the College's production of *Grease* shows the variety and opportunities that we provide for our students. Please look out for our latest Newsletter this week which celebrates 'Team Minsthorpe'.

As always, if you have any questions about the content of this letter, please contact the College via the School Gateway app or via email enquiries@minsthorpe.cc.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Gilmore
Principal

Mrs R Merritt
Principal

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