Tithe Farm Road, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire, LU5 5JB

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April 2022

April 2022: Covid-19 Overview of new advice.

Dear Families,

As you will be aware, we are now in the 'Living safely with Covid' phase of our recovery from the pandemic. The majority of school specific guidance has now been withdrawn, which allows schools to resume to a more normal way of operating. The information in this letter outlines the routines which the school has in place to support living safely with Covid.

To support living safely with Covid-19 the UKHSA's 'Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19' guidance sets out several actions that will help to reduce the risk of catching and spreading infection.

These actions apply to everyone and are as follows:

- Get vaccinated if possible
- Keep indoor areas well ventilated by letting fresh air in
- Remember the basics of good hygiene
- Wear a face covering if you have symptoms or have tested positive

People with symptoms should stay at home and avoid contact with other people

- Adults who have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including coronavirus symptoms, and who
 have a high temperature or feel unwell should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other
 people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and no longer have a high
 temperature.
- Adults with symptoms should try to work from home where possible. These measures should be followed even where the individual has not taken a coronavirus test.
- This also applies to children and young people they can return to school when they feel well enough to attend and no longer have a high temperature.

People with a confirmed case of coronavirus should also stay at home

- If an adult tests positive for coronavirus, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with others for five days.
- Children and young people under 18 who test positive should try to stay at home for three days.
- Children and young people who live with someone who has a confirmed case of coronavirus should continue to attend school as normal.

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New advice covers actions that will reduce the chance of spreading infection

The UKHSA has also provided advice on actions that symptomatic individuals, or individuals with a confirmed case of coronavirus, can take if they do leave the house while they are infectious. These actions include:

- Wearing a face covering.
- Avoiding crowded places such as public transport or large social gatherings.
- Avoiding areas that are enclosed or poorly ventilated.
- Avoiding close contact with other people.
- Covering your mouth and nose when you sneeze and cough.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or hand sanitiser.

These actions also apply to those trying to reduce the spread of infection within their homes.

What does this mean in school?

- School life will continue to make steps to becoming more normal, unless we have a Covid-19 outbreak.
- We will continue to ventilate, encourage handwashing and good respiratory hygiene.
- We will continue to use the same processes for the rest of this academic year at the beginning and end of the day; however, we will not enforce the one-way system. Gates will close promptly at 8:50am. Please ensure your children are in school before this time. We will re-evaluate collection routines ready for September.
- Adults and children who have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including coronavirus symptoms, and who have a high temperature or feel too unwell to work/come to school should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and no longer have a high temperature.
- Children and young people under 18 who test positive should try to stay at home for three days, returning to school once their temperature has gone and they are well enough to return.

Yours sincerely,

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Mrs Worsfold

Headteacher

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