

2nd November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Update on control measures

I am writing to let you know that the Wakefield Public Health Team has issued updated guidance to schools in light of case rates in the area and the impact on local health services.

Local change to rules on household contacts

Wakefield Public Health have advised that, in this period of high cases in our local area, if someone in your household has tested positive for Covid 19 using an LFD or PCR test, that pupils/ students should stay at home and complete the following steps:

- If your child develops symptoms on day 1 or 2 they should get a PCR test straight away
- If they don't have symptoms, they should get a PCR test 3-5 days after their household member started with symptoms (or took a test if they had no symptoms)
- If this test is negative, the child can return to school and complete LFD tests for the remaining isolation period of the household member
- If the child develops symptoms at a later date, they must stay at home and PCR test again.

This applies to primary and secondary age children unless your child has tested positive for Covid 19 via PCR in the past 90 days or has had at least one dose of the vaccine more than 14 days ago.

If your child needs to stay at home under these rules, please let us know via info@ellandacademy.org.uk and we will work with you to provide them with high quality remote learning materials.

As you know, since the return to school in September, we have continued to provide high quality face to face education for our pupils/ students, delivering inspiring learning opportunities and experiences for your child, while following national guidance on Covid control measures. We will continue to:

- Strongly encourage all staff and students to complete twice weekly LFD tests.
- Maximise ventilation of classrooms
- Carry out additional cleaning, with a focus on frequently touched surfaces
- Use fogging machines to clean communal areas and classrooms on a rota basis
- Carry out activities such as PE outside, as much as possible
- Encourage hand and respiratory hygiene amongst staff and pupils.
- Advise visitors to stay away if they have any symptoms.

In light of the new local public health advice, we are also stepping up our in-school control measures for a two-week period in the first instance. The enhanced measures we will put in place from 1st November 2021 are:

- Students will remain in their key stage groups at break times, as much as possible
- Students will be required to wear face coverings on buses to and from the Academy, unless exemptions apply

We will operate these enhanced arrangements for a two-week period, subject to regular review, until Monday 18th November. We will write to you before this date with an update on our plans.

We are looking forward to an exciting half term of learning and celebration in our school. Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E Staton', written over a faint, large, irregular scribble.

Mr E Staton
Head of Academy