



4 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you have enjoyed a restful break with family and friends. We are looking forward to this term and hoping for a smooth start to the New Year. Inevitably, there have been some developments with covid during the holidays and I need to update you. Should there be any further changes I will, of course, let you know straight away.

As you may well have seen in the media, new guidance from the Department for Education was released on 2 January. The DfE is recommending that all students wear face coverings in classrooms as well as in communal areas. We will be implementing this recommendation for all students, unless they are exempt from wearing a face covering. Please ensure your child brings a face covering to school each day, and that they understand that they need to wear it during lessons as well as in corridors and in communal areas.

It remains important to continue to test regularly for covid. Please test your child before they return to school on Wednesday. We will also be testing all students who have consent from their parents/carers during the first week of term. If you have not given us your consent and wish to do so please complete the Google form here: <https://forms.gle/T4ryzDtWXJXVQjKj9>. This is a new consent form, please complete it even if you have done it before.

If your child tests positive they need to take a PCR test and isolate until they have the PCR result. If the PCR result is negative they can return to school. If it is positive they must isolate in line with government guidelines. The new guidance states that the isolation period need only be 7 days if the person with the virus tests negative with an LFD test on day 6 and day 7. Full information is available here: [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection - GOV.UK](#). If your child tests positive for covid please inform school immediately. If your child has covid symptoms, they must get a PCR test and isolate until they get the results, even if they take a lateral flow test and it is negative.

During this period, we expect to continue with all aspects of school. However, we are in a time of uncertainty and we may need to be flexible in the coming weeks. Please rest assured we have contingency plans in place, and should we need to change anything for any of your children we will let you know immediately. We will be guided by the DfE, North Yorkshire County Council and the Hope Sentamu Learning Trust. If you have any questions or concerns, at any time, please contact school directly.

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Thank you, again, for your understanding and support at this time.

Yours faithfully

Emma Robins
Principal