

5 April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware we have now moved into a new phase of the pandemic: 'living with covid'. I would like to update you on what this means for our community from now on.

In summary, we now know that Covid presents a low risk of serious illness to most children and young people, and most of those who are fully vaccinated. It has also been decided that routine testing in schools is no longer required. We will no longer be issuing testing kits. If your child is unwell with a high temperature, they should remain at home until they feel better and do not have a temperature. If your child tests positive for Covid they only need to stay at home and try to avoid contact with other people for 3 days. This is when they are most infectious. Further details are available here: Living with Covid: the end of routine testing in schools, colleges and childcare settings - The Education Hub.

We are very much hoping that this new guidance will ensure everyone, both students and staff, will be able to maintain high levels of attendance. It remains crucial that students attend school every day so that they do not miss out on their learning and the social and emotional benefits of being at school. Please send your child to school every day. We will contact you to follow up on absences and would like to thank you for your continued support in this respect. We also expect students to arrive on time to school - the habit of good punctuality is one that is important throughout life. Students should be in school by 8.40am. Again, please support us by ensuring your child arrives on time to school. If you would like to discuss any aspect of attendance or any other related issues please contact your child's Head of Year.

We are currently looking for school governors to join our governing body. This is a great opportunity to learn more about what is happening at school and to offer your insight as a parent/carer. If you think you might be interested and/or would like further information, please contact me directly (e.robins@gra.hslt.academy) or alternatively email the Chair of Governors, Alan Richards (chair@gps.hslt.academy).

As we near the end of this term, I would like to thank you again for your support. We have enjoyed another busy and enriching term. I hope you will be able to enjoy time spent with family and friends during the Easter break.

Yours faithfully

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