

28 January 2022

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope all families are safe and well. As you will no doubt be aware, the government's Plan B restrictions came to an end yesterday and I wanted to write to all parents and carers to clarify the current guidance for schools and the arrangements in place across the Trust.

The only change to the restrictions which affects schools is face coverings are no longer advised for pupils (in Year 7 and above), staff and visitors when in corridors and communal areas. As a Trust, we are continuing to advise staff in all of our schools to consider wearing a face covering when in busy areas of the school. We believe this is a sensible approach for the time being as schools continue to see cases of COVID-19. Parents, carers and visitors to our schools will also be advised to consider wearing a face covering when in busy parts of the school with people they would not usually meet.

We are continuing to employ a range of preventative measures to help keep our schools safe, these include:

- Ensuring anyone with coronavirus symptoms does not attend school.
- Keeping classrooms and offices well ventilated.
- Washing and sanitising hands regularly throughout the day.
- Practicing good respiratory hygiene.
- Encouraging twice weekly lateral flow testing for staff and secondary school students.

The self-isolation requirements remain the same. If your child is asymptomatic and tests positive on a lateral flow test, they should self-isolate (lateral flow tests no longer need to be confirmed with a PCR test). Your child may be able to end their isolation early and return to school after 5 full days if they have 2 negative test results taken 24 hours apart on day 5 and day 6.

A reminder, lateral flow tests are for asymptomatic testing only. Anyone with coronavirus symptoms should self-isolate and arrange a PCR test. If the PCR result is negative your child can return to school. If the result is positive, please follow the self-isolation guidance.

Children aged under 18 years and 6 months are not required to self-isolate if someone in the same household has COVID-19. They are however advised to take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days and would need to self-isolate if any of those test results is positive.

Thank you for your continued support, if you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school or email the Trust on info@pmat.academy.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Daly
Chief Executive Officer

Our Partner Schools