



HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Learning together Achieving together

4 March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. Events in the Ukraine have been at the forefront of our minds over the past few days and this update acts as an opportunity to give our very best wishes to those of you with connections to the region, or indeed to other parts of the world affected by conflict. We have had a number of powerful conversations with students over the last week; they have demonstrated an impressive grasp of global affairs, a sensitivity to the complex situation and a commitment to peace and co-operation.

I am writing with an update on how the changes in COVID-19 guidelines affects education.

➤ **COVID-positive cases should continue to isolate as per guidelines**

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, they should isolate for at least five days from symptoms. They can return to school after five days and two consecutive negative tests, or ten days if tests remain positive.

We cannot reiterate enough the importance of following this guidance; continuing to adhere to self-isolation guidelines will reduce the risk for the most vulnerable members of our school community.

➤ **School are allowed to send students home in certain circumstances**

If a school is made aware that a student is COVID-positive, or a student is displaying clear symptoms, the school can send the child home to prevent risk to staff and other students.

The student would be allowed to return to school after the necessary isolation period.

We would always contact home first in these circumstances.

➤ **Twice-weekly testing is no longer recommended – but please continue testing for now**

The government has removed the recommendation that staff and students test twice weekly and access to free testing kits for mainstream schools has ended. We ask that your child continues to test twice weekly if you have LFD kits remaining at home. The twice-weekly email reminder will now cease.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please get in touch.

All best wishes,

Matthew Sadler
Head

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