



Hillcrest School
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Mrs A Mead, Head Teacher

5 January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been lovely to welcome back our young people and see them excited to be back in school. It really is a privilege working in a school with such wonderful pupils.

Covid rates are once again soaring and sadly our staffing has already been impacted. We will do our very best to keep the whole school open but there may be days where we cannot stay fully open as we do not have enough staff to operate safely. This would be the last resort and we have booked additional agency staff to try and make sure that this does not have to happen. If this is the case we would ensure that your child has learning to do from home as per our Remote Learning Policy.

There are a number of ways that you can support us to keep our community safe.

Twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests.

School are regularly issuing lateral flow testing kits which are sent home with students. Whilst these are not compulsory, we would **urge** you to do them on **Monday** and **Thursday** mornings. Some people have Covid with no symptoms, and this regular testing could help stop the spread.

Please make sure you log these results via our school website.

Do not send your child in if they are displaying any Covid symptoms and take them for a PCR test.

Symptoms include:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell

The Omicron variant symptoms also includes:

- Fever
- Runny nose
- Throat pain
- Body ache
- Dry cough



If your child develops symptoms over the course of the school day, we will call and request that you come and collect your child. School transport is not allowed to carry your child home if they are symptomatic. Collection needs to be as soon as possible to avoid causing staffing issues as we isolate students and to avoid any distress for the student.

Encourage your child to wear a face covering on school transport, classroom and communal areas.

Not all of our pupils are able to wear face coverings, but where possible we strongly advise this. Some of our young people are more comfortable wearing snoods. We do have a small supply of these left in school if required. We always have face coverings for any child who requires one.

Close contacts

If your child has been in close contact with someone who has Covid, they need to have a PCR test. If this is negative, they can return to school, but must provide evidence of a daily LFD test for the next 7 days. This is important to protect our Hillcrest community.

Thank you for your continued support as we to try and keep our school open and safe to all.

Yours sincerely



Andrea Mead
Headteacher