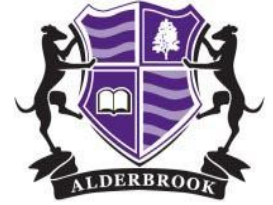


Alderbrook School

Blossomfield Road
Solihull
West Midlands
B91 1SN
Tel: 0121 704 2146

Email: office@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk
Web: www.alderbrookschool.co.uk
Company registered England & Wales no. 07687619



29 November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I write further to my email yesterday with more information about the recent updates to guidance.

On Saturday 27 November, the Prime Minister announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK. The new measures will be introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the variant until we have more information.

Face covering now required in school

From today, Monday 29 November 2021, all staff and students will be required to wear a face covering in communal areas in the school. This includes, when entering and leaving school, when moving between classrooms and in dining areas (except when eating and drinking).

Students do not need to wear face coverings when they are outside at break and lunchtimes. We will also maintain our hand washing and ventilation measures and we do not require students to wear a mask in classrooms, although some staff may request students to do so.

Students who are exempt from wearing a face covering will not be required to do so in school.

Continue to test using lateral flow device tests at home

You should continue to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests. A reminder that if the result of this is positive, you should:

- self-isolate straight away – [check if people you live with need to self-isolate](#)
- get a PCR test (a test that is sent to a lab) to confirm your result as soon as possible – [get a PCR test to check if you have COVID-19 on GOV.UK](#)
- Inform the school via the covidpositive@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk email.

Continue to self-isolate until you get the result of the PCR test. Follow the advice you're given when you get the result.

In England, if you do the PCR test within 2 days of a positive rapid lateral flow test at a test site and your PCR test is negative, you can stop self-isolating. If you do the PCR test later than this, you will need to self-isolate for 10 full days even if you get a negative PCR result.

Test & Trace may contact you if you are a confirmed close contact of the Omicron variant

The [current guidance on contact tracing and isolation](#) remains in place.

In addition to these, any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly and told to isolate.

We have several performances coming up in school over the next few weeks in the run up to the end of term. Starting with our Winter Wonderland performances tomorrow evening, can we please impress upon you the importance of taking a lateral flow test before you come to school and remind you that wearing a face covering will be mandatory for the whole time you are in school and during the performance itself. This will apply to all performances held in school. If there are further updates to guidance, or an increase in cases within the school community, we will have to review whether performances can go ahead.

We know none of this will be welcome news, but appreciate your support as we follow these new government guidelines to slow the spread of this variant. We thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Beveridge', with a stylized flourish underneath.

Tom Beveridge
Headteacher