

20 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Following a slight increase in the number of positive Covid cases in school we have made the decision to return to the requirement for staff and students to wear face masks on corridors unless they are medically exempt. Please be assured that we have been in touch with Public Health England and are acting on their advice. It is hoped that this will be a temporary measure to support with the reduction in cases.

It would be appreciated if you could support us by ensuring that students are taking twice weekly lateral flow tests and report their results on the government website at <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and via the [school website](#). This regular testing is part of our in school measures to keep everybody as safe as possible. Testing kits can be obtained from either our Student or Main Reception and at a variety of locations across Erdington and Sutton Coldfield.

As you are aware we have continued with the vast majority of our Covid control measures which have proved successful in keeping the number of positive cases to a minimum. This includes maintaining staggered entrance and exit at the start and end of the school day, a one way system in operation, antiseptic wipes and hand sanitiser in all classrooms with desks wiped in between classes as well as a split lunch to reduce cross over between year groups.

Can I please stress that if your child has any of the following symptoms:-

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature);
- new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual);
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal;

then they must stay at home and take a PCR test. Please do not send them to school until you have received a negative PCR test, if they do not have a PCR test they will have to remain at home for 10 days.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs T Peters**  
**Headteacher**