

4 January 2022

To parents and carers of children and young people
at primary schools in Ebor Academy Trust

Dear parent/carers

We enter 2022 with both optimism for a new term and an acceptance that while the Omicron variant appears to be less severe, nevertheless it is highly transmissible and so yet again we all need to be braced for further uncertainty.

The government has made it clear that schools should remain open and we endorse the need to continue to provide high quality, face-to-face education. Where possible we will do so but any staff shortages because of Covid will cause concern and there may be a need for short-term flexibility in the ways we teach. We will continue to follow government guidelines and our schools will be continually reviewing their individual risk assessments to minimise any risks.

To summarise the existing guidelines and to make you aware of further updates:

- It remains a legal requirement for children to attend school.
- Staff at all schools will wear face coverings in communal areas
- There is no requirement for primary phase children to wear face coverings
- Parents/carers – for their own protection – should wear face coverings (unless they are exempt) while on school premises
- In the event of a positive case where your child has been identified as a close contact, we will advise you and ask that your child is tested every morning for seven days and should continue to come to school if the result is negative and your child is not showing symptoms.
- Instead of a ten-day isolation period for positive cases, a negative test on day 6 and again on day 7 (at least 24 hours apart) will allow a return to normal activities on day 7 providing the person has a normal temperature. New guidance also now includes children under five.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Gail Brown
Chief Executive and Executive Headteacher

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