

Mr C A Wakefield B.Ed (Hons) NPQH Executive Principal

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## CWA/LDA/GHA

22 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

## Re: The Prime Minister's Announcement on the Living with COVID-19 Plan

I hope this correspondence finds you and all of your families well.

As you will have undoubtedly heard, last night, the Prime Minister announced the following with regards 'The Living with COVID-19 Plan' (with the full document able to be accessed via <u>'Living with COVID-19</u>'):

 From yesterday, Monday 21 February 2022, the Government is removing the guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing. The education testing delivery channels will remain open so that staff and students of secondary age and above can access tests if needed to respond to local public health advice, in particular in relation to outbreaks. Staff and students are also still able to access test kits from their local pharmacy or <u>online</u>, however, this is due to end on 1 April 2022 for the majority of people.

For more information on testing in education settings from today, please visit the following <u>frequently asked</u> <u>questions</u> document.

- From Thursday 24 February 2022, the Government will remove the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. I strongly urge this advice is followed for obvious reasons and have stated the same to the academy's team of staff in my email to them last night.
- In addition, the Government will:
  - No longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days, and remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.
  - End routine contact tracing. Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests. Staff, children and young people should attend their education settings as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household.
  - End the legal obligation for individuals to tell their employers when they are required to self-isolate although as has been the case throughout the pandemic period, I would very much appreciate the academy's stakeholders being as honest and as open as they have been with regards COVID-19 issues or matters. These ongoing communications have, without doubt, played a key role in keeping the academy's students, staff, families, and local community, as safe as possible over the course of the last two years.

Thank you in anticipation of your further hugely important support and collaboration.

Yours sincerely

Mr C A Wakefield Executive Principal

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