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Headteacher Miss Lynn Black



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Dear Parents/Carers

Covid -19 Updates

I am sure you are aware from the media that the current Covid-19 situation is changing rapidly as is the advice and guidance for positive cases and isolation periods.

As a result of the most recent Covid changes we have been reviewing our contingency plans in the event of high staff absence or a significant outbreak in school. These plans cover three scenarios and are similar to those shared with you last session. I have attached the plans for information and these can also be found on the Covid-19 page on the school website.

At the moment we are able to cover all classes where staff are absent, however, we will monitor this on a daily basis and give you as much notice as possible if the situation changes.

Public Health Scotland have updated the information on isolation periods. This information can be read in full here;

<https://publichealthscotland.scot/our-areas-of-work/covid-19/covid-19-health-protection-guidance/latest-updates/>

The following guidance came into force on the 11th December.
The key difference now is:

- **All household contacts of positive COVID-19 case must isolate for the full 10 days regardless of age, vaccination, negative PCR test, etc.**
- This will be the key thing for siblings, etc. of school-age pupils. If there is a case in the household/family, the rest of the household should isolate for the full 10 days (irrespective of age, etc.).

Asymptomatic Testing

Please ensure that you continue to encourage your son/daughter to test regularly using a lateral flow device. There is a letter attached which gives key updates about the lateral flow testing programme, including the removal for consent forms and a simplification to the process for collecting testing kits. We have plenty of kits available, so please encourage pupils to collect them regularly.

The letter suggests testing twice a week, but we are recommending testing every day where possible – this is the best chance we have to ensure we keep everyone safe. All of our mitigations remain in place and our risk assessment is reviewed regularly. I have asked all staff to review seating plans in the event that we have to identify any potential close contacts.

Equipped for Learning

All of our pupils (S1-6) have been offered a Chromebook with the vast majority now having received their device. If we are confident if we do need to move any pupils or classes to on-line learning, this rollout will enhance our ability to continue with quality learning and teaching.

I understand these are unsettling times and I hope we can make it to the Christmas holidays safely and all enjoy a well-earned break. Please contact us if you have any questions and we will do our best to answer them.

Best wishes

L Black

Lynn Black
Headteacher