

Foreland Fields School
Newlands Lane
Ramsgate
Kent
CT12 6RH
Tel: 01843 863891



Website: www.foreland.kent.sch.uk
Email: foreland@foreland.kent.sch.uk

Headteacher: Adrian Mount

29th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Following on from the Government's announcements regarding the COVID-19 Omicron variant, and in line with our Risk Assessment contingency plans, we have made the following changes to school operation:

- Staff will once again be wearing face coverings in communal areas. This means corridors at the start and end of the day, and whilst collecting pupils from the front of the school and minibuses.
- Guidance states that all secondary aged students should wear face coverings in communal areas unless they are exempt. Any of our students in Year 7 and above can therefore wear face coverings in class and on transport if they choose to, but we understand for the majority of our students this is not possible.
- All staff and secondary students should continue with twice weekly lateral flow device (LFD) testing, where possible. Please notify your child's class teacher of the result.
- Any child or adult identified as a close contact should take a PCR test however, they do not need to isolate unless they are over 18 and unvaccinated, have symptoms of COVID-19 or are instructed to isolate by the school leadership team. The exception to this is for close contacts of suspected or confirmed Omicron variant cases, who will be expected to isolate for 10 days regardless of their age and vaccination status.
- The curriculum will run as normal. Where class trips can be adapted to reduce mixing without impacting on the curriculum, this will be done.
- All eligible staff and students aged 12 and above are encouraged to take up the vaccine, including boosters for staff.
- The school will continue to ventilate all rooms, whilst maintaining a comfortable temperature.
- All staff and pupils/students will continue to maintain high standards of hygiene.

It is of vital importance that any child who is showing any symptoms of the virus does not attend school. If able to, symptomatic pupils should take a PCR test and not return to school unless the test comes back as negative or they have isolated for the required period – 10 clear days from the onset of symptoms. The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- High temperature – this means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure temperature).



- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

You may also be aware that there have been reports within the mainstream news that many people testing positive have presented with symptoms such as a really bad cold, headache, sore throat or runny nose so we do ask that all parents/carers remain alert to this.

Whilst we remain committed to ensuring our Christmas events run as planned, we need to ensure we are operating safely and within the published guidance. We will provide any changes to planned events as soon as we are able.

We are expecting further updates to guidance within the coming days and will, of course, keep you all posted.

Yours sincerely



Adrian Mount
Headteacher