

4th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust you are well and that your child is looking forward to a well-deserved Easter break. I hope that you too get the opportunity for some rest and relaxation.

I write to you today with an update with regards to Covid-19 and some recent changes to guidance.

On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the [next steps for living with COVID-19](#) in England from Friday 1 April.

He stated that the population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.

Therefore, for education and childcare settings from Friday 1st April the following guidance applies:

- Regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended. This includes SEND, alternative provision and children's social care settings. Schools will no longer be able to order test kits or distribute them to students.
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and when they are well enough to attend.
- It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.
- If a child or young person has tested positive for COVID-19, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for **3 days** after the day they took the test, if they can. After **3 days**, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, they can return to school. This is because the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. Evidence shows that children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.
- Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend school.

If you have any questions regarding this new guidance please email Mr Abbott on: jabbott@budmouth-aspirations.org

Kind regards,



Mike Hoffmann
Principal