



The Priory School

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Dear parents and carers,

I hope this finds you well.

Thank you for your continued support with regard to our covid measures and precautions. We do have small numbers of Covid cases in each year group but this has not reached the threshold for any extra intervention from Public Health England. We communicate with them every week and report all cases daily. They are fully supportive of the measures we have put in place and are happy with the way we are managing the current situation as well as the level and detail of communication with yourselves. This was confirmed this weekend when I was contacted about a parental query raised directly with them.

This week will see those students (only where parental consent has been obtained) receive their first vaccinations. Pupils can only be vaccinated using this service if they are 12-15 years old and have not had Covid in the past 28 days. All letters and information have been sent out as hard copy via students but also by email please complete these as soon as possible if you wish your child to be involved. There will be no vaccinations taking place on site without parental consent.

Please continue to send your child to school with a face covering, unless they are exempt. This will help to limit our use of disposable face masks; students should not rely on these they are only available if a mask has been lost or damaged.

Please continue to use the MS Forms link to inform us of a positive Covid case where a pupil tests positive on a PCR test. This has been incredibly useful. As a number of you will already know where we are informed of close contacts or we see cases in a specific Form or House group we have been sending out close contact emails advising pupils to take a PCR test. If there is a positive case in your household please do not send them into school while waiting for their PCR result even if they do not have symptoms – this is a recent change in guidance.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=X4pRTR73X0uDdSbvXs_1sYtr5681clhPsEMfs_wxfkoLURUI3VjBQUTJFTEZRnk9PVFBaUURYNEEyMy4u

If your child has any of the main and precautionary symptoms of Covid (including sore throat and headache) please do not send them into school and arrange a PCR test. Do not rely on an LFD test in this instance.

We recommend that families continue to use LFD testing on a twice weekly, or more frequent basis to detect early symptoms of Covid 19.

For any children who are well enough to work or are self-isolating work is available via Classcharts. If you have any questions or queries about this please contact your child's form tutor. Work will only be set for those who are absent due to Covid not for any unauthorised absences.

School remains open and delivering a full curriculum offer. We do have small numbers of staff absent due to Covid and we are therefore having to rely on either internal cover or supply teaching to ensure classes continue as normal. We will communicate with you if this begins to affect our ability to deliver face to face teaching for year groups on site. If we do become compromised then we may have to revert to online learning on a rota basis for specific year groups.

Due to the ever evolving nature of Covid and its transmission we have daily and weekly reviews of our current procedures. There may be further changes we need to make in relation to bubbles and zones and the delivery of our timetable. We will try everything we can to avoid partial or full closure of school in the eventuality of a continued increase in cases. We will only be able to do this if advised to do so by public health and will always leave it as a final resort.

Please continue to be vigilant around any symptoms and contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A Pope".

Mrs A Pope
Headteacher