



28th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

**'Living with COVID-19' – Government Announcement Monday 21st February 2022
What does this mean for Haytor View?**

You will be aware that there have been changes to expectations nationally following the announcement made by government last week. The purpose of this letter is to provide a summary of what this means for our school community.

To keep things clear we have detailed below key messages that will shape our approach to following guidance and considering the health and education needs of the community:-

- Staff, students and pupils are **no longer advised to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing**. Up to now test kits have been provided to staff to enable this but this will no longer be the case.
- **Good hygiene arrangements** should and will be continued in school.
- **Well ventilated and comfortable teaching environments should and will be maintained**. We are fortunate in that the design of our school allows easy and accessible ventilation. Digital sensors in each classroom allow teachers to monitor CO2 levels and temperatures easily. A balance between ventilation levels and comfortable temperatures will always be sought.
- Staff, children and young people with COVID-19 **should not attend school while they are infectious** – this period is 2 days prior to symptoms and 10 days following symptoms being present.
- Staff, children and young people with COVID-19 can take a lateral-flow test 5 days after their symptoms started followed by another the next day. **If both of these results are negative they should return to school/work if they feel well enough to do so, and they do not have a temperature.**
- If your test on day 5 is positive, **you can continue taking lateral flow tests until you receive 2 negative tests on two consecutive days**, at which time people can return to school.
- Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils/visitors or staff in classrooms or communal areas. **As such we will no longer be requesting that parents wear masks during Time to Think, or when visiting reception at the front of the school**. Arrangements for mask wearing during meetings in closed rooms will be discussed and agreed at the start of meetings to ensure everyone's comfort. **Of course individuals may make their own decision about wearing a mask wherever they wish.**
- In moving forward in line with guidance being provided **we are pleased and excited to recommence whole school celebration assemblies each Friday morning** – we will be keen to invite parents to join us again for these occasions over the coming weeks so please watch out for news on this. Children from the Foundation Stage will join these assemblies when they have been nominated to receive certificates. **Keep your eye on the newsletter for weekly nominations as always!**
- Our **World Book Day Assembly on Thursday 3rd March** will see Years 1-6 come together for the first time since pre-COVID times.

We recognise that often, when faced with positive cases of COVID-19, or indeed any matters concerning ill health within families, it can be useful to talk through your particular circumstances with us – we would encourage you to contact us at these times. We'll always try to make your effort worth your while.

In the meantime should you have any questions concerning the points detailed above please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Scott Hampton
Co-Head Teacher

Katy Galling
Co-Head Teacher