



DEVONPORT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A SPECIALIST LANGUAGE COLLEGE

Friday 25 February 2022

Dear parents/carers,

RE: Living with Covid-19

I hope that you and your family have had a good half term. As you will have seen in the news this week, the government has confirmed its plan for 'Living with COVID'. This letter today is to outline how the 'Living with COVID' plan will affect how we operate at DHSG from Monday 28 February, when students return to school, after the half term break.

Twice weekly asymptomatic testing

The government has now removed the guidance for staff and students to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing. However, we still have a supply of test kits available in school, so we can continue to provide these to families upon request, while stocks last. Please ask your child to contact the School Office if they require further test kits.

Self-isolation

As of yesterday, Thursday 24 February, there is no longer a legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, adults and children who test positive are still advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days. The UKHSA recommends that adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. After 5 days, they may choose to take a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) followed by another the next day - if both are negative, and they do not have a temperature, they can safely return to their normal routine. Those who test positive should avoid contact with anyone in an at risk group, including if they live in the same household.

After careful consideration of the risk that Covid-19, as an infectious disease, still poses to people, and in line with the latest DfE guidance, we have taken the decision to continue to ask staff and students to follow the UKHSA advice. **Therefore, any staff member or student who tests positive for Covid-19 should not attend DHSG for at least 5 full days and take LFTs from day 5, until 2 negative test results on consecutive days are received, at least 24 hours apart (or up until day 10, when self-isolation can end).** It is advisable to take the LFTs at 8am in the morning, so that once 2 negative tests are received, students can return to school that morning. Remote learning, will still be set, the same as we have done for students self-isolating, up until this point. Enclosed at the end of this letter is a flow chart to reiterate the advice above. We will continue to review this advice, in line with the latest guidance from the government, and update you should this change.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with us, should you require any further clarification.

Yours faithfully,

Lee Sargeant
Head Teacher



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Examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms or have received a positive COVID-19 test result

