

St. Anne's School

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Dear parents and carers,

Re Start of term

As we look forward to welcoming children and young people back on Monday following a wellearned break for half term, I wanted to update you on measures in place to help us continue managing the implications of COVID-19.

While the legal restrictions around the virus have been lifted, to use something Dr Brink has said '*COVID-19 has not gone away*' so we need to continue taking sensible steps to limit the risk of spread in school wherever possible. We would ask that you continue supporting our efforts and thank you for doing so.

The most important message that we need your support with is that your child should be kept at home if they are unwell or if you know they have COVID-19, until symptom-free and negative LFTs on consecutive days after Day 5.

Additionally, please note the below points:

- Following the half term break, all staff, children and young people are asked to undertake an **LFT** on **first three days of new half term** (28th February, 1st and 2nd March 2022).
- From 3rd March, there will be no surveillance testing for primary age pupils.
- From 3rd March, surveillance testing for secondary and all staff will reduce from previous levels to a request that LFTs are taken before school on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week.

It remains the expectation that face coverings will be worn by secondary school pupils in communal areas such as corridors. This also remains the expectation for staff in primary and secondary staff do likewise.

We will no longer carry out contact tracing

As such we will no longer notify parents if their child is a contact of a positive case. This is in line with broader Public Health contact tracing going forwards, where positive cases are asked to notify their close contacts.

As a school we will risk assess large events on a case-by-case basis and make individual decisions – this will be the decision of the Headteacher and/or member of the Senior Leadership Team (Mrs Wilson, Mrs Dawber or Ms Smith).

I hope the measures outlined will further support efforts to return to a more 'normal' educational experience.

Thank you again for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you on Monday for the start of the new term ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M A Winward

Headteacher