

28 February 2022

Dear Parents,

### **Covid-19 Update: Living with Covid-19 Plan**

Following the Government's announcement on the ending of all Covid restrictions in England, we have been considering the implications for us as a school. In doing so, we are, as ever, following the advice and guidance of the experts at the Department for Education (DfE) and the NHS.

Whilst the Government's announcement is clear that Covid remains present in society, it does bring an end to the series of legal and some of the advisory measures that have been in place in schools over the last two years. I would like to thank everyone in the school – students, parents, staff and visitors – for following the laws and the guidance so that we have been able to minimise the risk of transmitting the virus within the school.

Our priority remains the safety and wellbeing of everyone in our school community and I would hope that we would all continue to act sensibly and considerately in the interests of everyone's health. Secondary school students are now no longer expected to test twice a week but, if your child does develop symptoms associated with Covid-19 I would urge you to continue to test them for the virus. Tests will be free of charge until 1<sup>st</sup> April so do request them from the NHS or your pharmacist if you need them, a supply is available for students to pick up from Student Services while we still have some in stock. If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms during the school day we will provide some tests from spares we have remaining in school. Close contacts of positive cases are no longer required to undertake daily Covid-19 tests.

**If your child does test positive for Covid-19, I would ask that they continue to self-isolate for 10 days, this can be reduced to six days after having two negative lateral flow tests on two consecutive days from day 5.** Please see picture below for guidance on isolation dates and how they currently work. For full updated guidance for positive cases and those with symptoms please [Click Here](#). Whilst doing so is no longer the law, it is very sensible practice and helps us minimise the risk of Covid-19 spreading in the school. If we are all careful and considerate, we can, I hope, minimise the risk of the virus circulating amongst us. If your child does test positive and will be absent from school please, as usual, call the student absence line or let us know via [info@shoreham-academy.org](mailto:info@shoreham-academy.org) email address. Remote learning work will continue to be set via Firefly for those students who are self-isolating because of Covid-19.

Children and young people remain eligible for a vaccination against Covid-19. If your child has not already had theirs, they are available via the NHS and further details on where they are available locally are here [Click Here](#). An email will be sent out

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later this week with further details on the final 'in school' vaccination session to be held later this term.

We are all hopeful that we are now coming to the end of the pandemic, but this is by no means a certainty and, as new variants occur, we may be required to reintroduce some or all of the measures we have lived with over the past two years. As a school, we will be continuing to keep our risk assessments and plans updated so that we are always prepared for anything that needs to be reintroduced at short notice. The current Covid-19 risk assessment is on the website in the Policies Section [Click Here](#) and details Covid-19 measures which are still currently in place.

Thank you again for your support over the past two years. We are all looking forward to returning to normality and, as long as we remain vigilant and considerate of others, I am confident that we will be able to do so successfully and enjoy the remainder of the academic year in full.

Yours sincerely



Jim Coupe  
Principal

### Self-Isolation – Guidance Diagram

