

Hope House School

Transforming the lives of children living on the Autistic Spectrum

23rd February 2022.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this email finds you well after our half-term break. We have a very short term ahead and we are hoping to communicate some good news next week regarding our Easter Plans from our Pride Force Team.

However, in light of the Government's recent changes to remove COVID restrictions nationally I thought it important to let you all know of Hope House School's plans. Whilst the government legislation for self-isolation has been removed the advice is still to isolate if you have a positive COVID test for 5 days with return to school after two negatives COVID tests for both staff and pupils, which can be taken from day 4. This is national advice and has been placed in the hands of us all to take responsibility without the need for legislation.

The guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) for Special Schools is different and we will continue to operate a twice weekly testing regime for all our staff. This means we can still obtain free COVID testing kits. We will continue to offer free kits for children, and we will be checking with you if you would like us to still offer this service. Staff at the school if testing positive, will follow the national advice regarding self-isolation. Also, we are asking parents to also follow this advice and following a positive test result a young person should still self-isolate and return to school following two negative COVID test results. If you haven't got access to a testing kit at home, we will support you with this.

I am sure you can see that we are remaining vigilant, because the protection of our community is very important to us. That being said, if the school has low staffing numbers, we will continue to operate our blended learning and remote offer, of course we will always try to give as much notice as possible if we move to this plan. This is always a last resort, but as we have seen over the past few months, it is sometimes the safest option for the school in times of low staffing.

Once again it leaves me to say a big thank you for your ongoing support of everything we are doing in school, and I look forward to communicating with you all again next week regarding our Easter plan.

Kind regards



Kind Regards
Joanne Kiernan
Interim Headteacher