



## The Dove Federation

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Disney

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the announcement by the Government yesterday to move to the 'Living with Covid 19 plan', we have been sent updated information from the Department of Education regarding changes and expectations for schools, which are summarised below:

### From Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February

- The legal requirement to self isolate following a positive Covid 19 test will be removed. However, **adults and children who test positive will be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative tests on consecutive days.**
- There will no longer be a need for close contacts (under 18 or fully vaccinated) to test daily for 7 days.
- Close contacts who are not fully vaccinated no longer have to self isolate.
- Routine contact tracing will come to an end.
- Staff are no longer required to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing.

### What does this mean for our school?

- If your child tests positive for Covid 19, they should stay at home for 5 days, avoiding contact with other people. They should **only return to school** once they have received 2 negative tests, 2 days in a row. The 10 days of isolation rule is no longer in place.
- If a member of staff has tested positive for Covid 19, they will stay at home for 5 days, and follow the same guidance as for pupils.
- If a parent/carer has Covid they could now bring their child to school, avoiding other people by arranging a quieter drop off and collection time with the school directly.
- If your child has Covid, their absence will continue to be coded as 'I' for illness.
- Close contacts of positive cases can continue to attend school and no longer need to undertake daily testing for 7 days.
- Free universal testing is available until 1<sup>st</sup> April.

I hope that this offers some reassurance and guidance to support you over the coming days and weeks. If we receive further direction or guidance, we will of course update you further.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs S Disney  
Executive Headteacher