14th February 2022

Dear Parents/carers

A rather belated Happy New Year to you all.

The new term got off to a shaky start with a number of staff being off with covid. This saw us having to close one of the classes for 10 days, which was really disappointing but the decision was taken out of our hands. We look forward to having those pupils back in school on either Monday or Tuesday depending on testing.

Covid infection rates also disrupted the transport team, which resulted in a number of buses being cancelled. You all rallied and did a great job of getting pupils into school. Hopefully, fingers crossed our area’s infection rates are going to start to settle again; last week numbers were extremely high (2,000 in every 100,000).

Those that have been back in school have all come back refreshed, happy and pleased to see everyone. The weather is certainly helping, allowing classes to continue with being out and about in the community.

You should have started to receive your child’s evaluated and new individual education plans and information about the activities that will be taking place around the termly topic. Do keep checking the Jotter to see extracurricular activities and initiatives that are happening.

Also, we have had notification, through the DfE that from Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Freport-covid19-result%3Futm_source%3D14%2520January%25202022%2520C19%26utm_medium%3DDaily%2520Email%2520C19%26utm_campaign%3DDfE%2520C19&data=04%7C01%7Ckingsmill.head.specialschool%40eastriding.gov.uk%7Ce6225f1a02cb4c34403d08d9d7430532%7C351368d19b5a4c8bac76f39b4c7dd76c%7C1%7C0%7C637777505115875126%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=4x%2B%2BDYvMfOpFmV6mbEi%2Bg9KGDD5fWxoBIUssN8Sd4Kg%3D&reserved=0).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

**Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.**

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fnews%2Fself-isolation-for-those-with-covid-19-can-end-after-five-full-days-following-two-negative-lfd-tests%3Futm_source%3D14%2520January%25202022%2520C19%26utm_medium%3DDaily%2520Email%2520C19%26utm_campaign%3DDfE%2520C19&data=04%7C01%7Ckingsmill.head.specialschool%40eastriding.gov.uk%7Ce6225f1a02cb4c34403d08d9d7430532%7C351368d19b5a4c8bac76f39b4c7dd76c%7C1%7C0%7C637777505115875126%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=l1rxufr9bLBQamy39Zl80BgDhizbHv%2F%2FL3wzHI%2BMvVg%3D&reserved=0) is available.

Hopefully this will mean less disruption for everyone and help us ensure that we have sufficient staff in school.

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

Enjoy the weekend.