

24 September 2021

Dear parent / carer,

I am writing to keep you updated about our ongoing work to keep our school community safe during the ongoing pandemic. Our school follows all guidance set out by the Department for Education and Public Health England and has a number of measures in place to keep people safe: ventilation; encouraging hand washing and use of hand sanitiser; a one way system around school; students remaining in year groups at lunch time; regular cleaning; encouraging twice weekly lateral flow testing.

We have been made aware of confirmed positive cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) at Outwood Academy Bishopsgarth. While changes to the national Department for Education guidance on 19 July 2021 have removed the general requirement on education settings to identify all close contacts of students and staff with COVID-19, schools are required to take necessary actions in order to prevent further spread of COVID infection. We are writing to advise you of these positive cases and that your child should continue to attend school but you may wish to seek a PCR test and report the result to the school. You should not arrange to have a PCR test if you have previously received a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days, unless you develop any new symptoms of COVID-19.

All students and family members should continue to be alert for the main symptoms of Covid-19. Anyone with a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to the sense of smell or taste should self-isolate and book a PCR test by calling 119 or visiting www.nhs.uk/coronavirus.

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19):

- get vaccinated – everyone aged 16 and over can book COVID-19 vaccinations
- wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people
- participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over) and log your results: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>

I am grateful for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Mark Robinson
Head of School