



Maltby Hilltop School

an academy within Nexus MAT

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Thursday 31st March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As things change again with the COVID guidance, it feels like a helpful time to clarify where we are and the expectations on schools and families.

Under the guidance to this point we have asked families to get a PCR test or LFT for their child when they are presenting with symptoms. The guidance and availability of testing across the country means that will change from 1st April.

We have been advised to stop routine testing in school for staff and we are no longer carrying out testing twice weekly. We do have a number of kits and if staff or families want to test themselves they are welcome to do so. Currently we do have test kits and are happy to send them out to families. Please just let us know in the home school diaries or via a call to the office and we will send a pack of 7 out to you. At this time we are still able to order them free and will continue to do so whilst we can, though are anticipating this changing in the near future.

The new instructions from the government in 'Living with Covid' are as follows.

- From 1 April, routine testing will no longer be expected in all education and children's social care settings.
- From 1 April, anyone with a positive COVID-19 test result or symptoms will be advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for five days, which is when they are most infectious.
- For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be three days.

Whilst this should all be good news in terms of ensuring pupils' access to education, we have to be conscious of the potential for an increase in cases and therefore the potential for staff absence that could have an impact on our ability to retain a full-time offer across the school. On that basis we must continue to be vigilant and please, for the whole-school community's sake, continue to follow the guidance and do not send your child into school if they have symptoms.

If you have any concerns please do contact us at school.

David Burdett
Headteacher