



ESHER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL  
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Head of School : Mr A King

23 February 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students

You will have no doubt seen the announcement from the government about the changes to Covid restrictions commencing Thursday 24 February 2022.

The new guidance to schools from the DfE is that face coverings are no longer advised in classrooms or communal areas. The only exception would be if a Director for Public Health advises this if we had an outbreak of cases.

I am pleased to say that the number of reported cases among students today is 6, a considerable shift from the numbers we had prior to the half term holiday. This means that from tomorrow, Thursday 24 February, face coverings are no longer required in school.

You will see that testing requirements will now end as well. Thank you all very much for the support you have given with all the testing, staggered returns to school, reintroducing masks and supporting the learning of your children. It has made our job as a school easier having such a wonderfully supportive parent body.

As we move into this next stage, the advice from the DfE is as follows:

- Students should attend school if they are well.
- Students should stay at home if:
  - they are showing one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#), which are: a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste,
  - they have had a positive test result.
- Students with COVID-19 symptoms should have a PCR test. If you test positive, stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until you have received 2 negative lateral flow test results on consecutive days. (Tests kits are no longer available from school, but will remain available to order [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)).
- Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests. Staff and students should attend school as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household.
- Follow the rules and recommendations on wearing a face covering when on public or Surrey provider transport.
- That all eligible pupils take up the offer of a vaccine.

The Trust COVID-19 Risk Assessment and Infection Control Policy are currently being updated and will be posted on the website shortly.

Thank you again for all your support.

Yours faithfully



Mr A King  
**Head of School**