



29 Nov 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Covid 19 Update

The Elliot Foundation is the charity that runs your child's school. As such we are responsible for the health, safety and general wellbeing of all children and staff in our schools. We also have a moral responsibility to the communities that our schools serve.

Covid 19 has not gone away. I thought I would take the opportunity to share with you what we are doing and to remind you of what you can do to help.

General risk mitigation measures

We all share the responsibility to restrict the spread of the virus.

- Please ensure that you and your family are up to date with your vaccinations and boosters
- Follow hand hygiene protocols and use gels and disinfectant sprays
- Wear a mask when in confined spaces
- Fresh air and distance are the best mitigation measures

School Risk mitigation

All of our schools have individual operational plans designed to help mitigate the risk of Covid transmission. These have been drawn up from government guidance and are reviewed by the Trust fortnightly in light of the level of transmission in a school or area.

- If your child displays symptoms please arrange a PCR test and share the results with the school
- If your child tests positive you will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace to help identify close contacts
- Please be aware that schools are no longer required to conduct contact tracing
- Remember that Lateral Flow Tests for those without symptoms are readily available if you are concerned about a local increase in cases
- If the number of positive cases in any class rises above a threshold we activate contingency plans which may include:
 - Restricting mixing of classes or year groups for a period of time - eg separate dining, not attending assemblies
 - Limiting out of school activities
 - Limiting visitors to the site
 - Cancellation of assemblies and events (unfortunately this may include nativity plays and carol services)

- We will seek to avoid closing classes wherever possible but in some situations this may be unavoidable (significant Covid variant of concern, major staff absence through illness, or where expressly advised by local Public Health body)

The last two years have been exceptionally hard. Many school staff have gone above and beyond to support children and their families. Many have done this while also supporting vulnerable relatives at home. I am sure that you have done the same for others in your community, workplace or home. Let us hold on to the idea of supporting each other.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Greenway', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hugh Greenway
Chief Executive - The Elliot Foundation