

Dear Parents/Carers

You received an email from me earlier today, explaining the new covid regulations for the start of term. This letter was factually correct, but I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight the changes to our approach to covid following on from the changes after August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021. I hope this helps to supplement the letter sent earlier and the inclusions of some scenarios will prove helpful.

### **Copleston Covid Guidance from September 21**

All students are asked to test twice weekly. Test kits will be issued by the school and are also available from local pharmacies. If your child is not well, please do not send them to school.

All contact tracing has now been handed over to the Test and Trace teams and is no longer the responsibility of Copleston High School. All messages regarding self-isolation will now come to you from Test and Trace representatives.

The following details explain what to do when identified as a close contact

From 16<sup>th</sup> August, fully vaccinated adults and those under-18 and 6 months identified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact are strongly advised to take a PCR test. There is no requirement to self-isolate whilst awaiting that PCR test result and so individuals can continue to attend their education or childcare setting. **If an individual is symptomatic, they should stay at home.**

Children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who have been identified as a close contact should continue to attend the setting as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the setting, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.

Children who are aged under 5 years old and identified as close contacts are advised to take a PCR test only if the positive case is within their own household.

The following scenarios may be helpful

Scenario	What do I do
My child has developed Covid symptoms	Make sure your child stays at home and book a PCR test immediately. They must self-isolate until you get the result. If the result is positive, they must self-isolate, and Test and Trace will contact you to confirm the period of self-isolation and identify close contacts. Please let us know the PCR test result and when your child will be able to return to school after their period of self-isolation If the result is negative, your child can return to school as soon as they are feeling better. Please inform the school of the PCR test result and when they will return to school

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

<p>My child has tested positive on a Lateral Flow Test (LFT)</p>	<p>Make sure your child stays at home and book a PCR test immediately. They must self-isolate until you get the result.</p> <p>If the result is positive, they must self-isolate, and Test and Trace will contact you to confirm the period of self-isolation and identify close contacts. Please let the us know the PCR test result and when your child will be able to return to school after their period of self-isolation</p> <p>If the result is negative, your child can return to school as soon as they are feeling better. Please inform the school of the PCR test result and when they will return to school</p>
<p>Someone in my household has tested positive for covid</p>	<p>Your child can carry on as normal and come to school. You will be contacted by Test and Trace and advised to take a PCR test. Your child does not have to self-isolate and can continue to come to school whilst you wait for the result.</p> <p>If the result is positive, they must self-isolate, and Test and Trace will contact you to confirm the period of self-isolation and identify close contacts. Please let the us know the PCR test result and when your child will be able to return to school after their period of self-isolation</p> <p>If the result is negative, your child can return to school as soon as they are feeling better. Please inform the school of the PCR test result and when they will return to school</p>
<p>One of my friends or another student in my class or year group has tested positive</p>	<p>Your child can carry on as normal and come to school. You will be contacted by Test and Trace and advised to take a PCR test if identified as a close contact. You do not have to self-isolate and can continue to come to school whilst you wait for the result.</p> <p>If the result is positive, they must self-isolate, and Test and Trace will contact you to confirm the period of self-isolation and identify close contacts. Please let the us know the PCR test result and when your child will be able to return to school after their period of self-isolation</p> <p>If the result is negative, your child can return to school as soon as they are feeling better. Please inform the school of the PCR test result and when they will return to school</p>

Ventilation is important in schools. All windows and doors in classrooms will be open during the day to ensure adequate airflow through the rooms. As soon as we receive delivery of the air monitors, we will ensure they are operational across the building

We look forward to welcoming our students to Copleston over the next few days and I hope this additional information specific to Covid has been helpful.

Best Wishes

Mr A Green

Principal