

2nd January 2022

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you and your families are well after the festive period and have managed to spend some time with those closest to you. You may be aware from the media today that there have been a number of changes and updates regarding the expectations of students and staff in schools across England from Tuesday 4th January.

I have attempted to summarise the important key points with a reminder of our own Academy plans below:

- **Face coverings** - All students, unless exempt, should wear face coverings in **classrooms and teaching spaces** where students in year 7 and above are educated. The advice is short term only and will be reviewed on the 26 January. The Academy has a small contingency stock of face coverings but cannot provide these to students on a regular basis. Students are therefore expected to arrive at the Academy with their own face covering every morning.
- **Face coverings for school transport** - Students must also wear a face covering when travelling on public transport and should wear it on dedicated transport to and from school.
- **Tuesday 4th testing** - All year groups have an allotted time for testing on Tuesday 4th January. All students will test and return home to prioritise the testing of all students during the day. All students who attend for testing will receive a pack of LFD tests to take home and continue twice weekly testing.
- **Remote Learning** - Remote learning will be available for all students on Tuesday 4th January.
- **Testing when previously positive** - Even if someone has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are strongly encouraged to take part in LFD testing on-site at the Academy or at home once they have completed their isolation period. Students are then strongly encouraged to continue testing twice weekly at home and to [report all results to NHS Test and Trace](#) and to the Academy.
- **New isolation guidance** - Since Wednesday 22nd December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and

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day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. If both day 6 and day 7 tests are negative, then students or staff members can return to the Academy from day 8.

There will undoubtedly be further information throughout next week, we will endeavour to keep you as informed as possible and thank you for your support and patience.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Academy through enquiries@ripon.outwood.com.

Yours faithfully,

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

William Pratt

Principal