



# Whitburn Church of England Academy

An Academy with Specialist Status in Maths and Computing

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*'Excellence for All'*

4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Updated Arrangements – January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year and, once again, extend our utmost thanks to you all for your ongoing support.

Having completed our on-site testing today, we look forward to welcoming the whole school back tomorrow. Scholars' buses will be running as normal. ***If your child did not have an on-site test today, for the health and safety of all, please can they complete an LFD test tonight or first thing tomorrow morning, before coming in to school.*** They then need to continue to test twice weekly at home. Once again please log the results to NHS Test and Trace via <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and also report your child's LFD result to school via this link [here](#). Our next delivery of LFD home test kits is expected next week, and these will be distributed as soon as they arrive.

As you are aware from the press, the government announced some additional measures for schools over the coming weeks, as well as some changes to isolation rules. These are outlined below for your reference.

### **Face coverings in classrooms for Year 7 and above**

Face coverings will continue to be worn by students in classrooms, unless exempt. Students, staff and visitors need to wear these too when moving around the premises. Face coverings must also continue to be worn on public transport and in local shops. These measures will be in place until Wednesday 26 January, when they will be reviewed. It is an expectation that your child comes to school each day with a suitable face covering or, if applicable, displays their exemption card/lanyard.

### **Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for Covid-19 (reduced to 7 days provided there are two negative LFD tests on day 6 and day 7)**

The full self-isolation period is 10 days. However if an individual gets a **negative LFD** test result no earlier than **day 6** of the self-isolation period and a **further negative test 24 hours later (day 7)** then the individual no longer needs to complete the full 10 days. They may end their self-isolation after the second negative test *provided they do not have a high temperature*.

The diagram on the following page helpfully summarises the current government guidance.

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**Document available in large font, alternative language or audio format on request**



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## **Contingency Plans**

Given the challenging and ever-changing situation that we find ourselves in, we have continued to keep our contingency plans under review. Unfortunately, if national cases maintain their present trajectory, we are anticipating substantial disruption to staffing and attendance over the coming half term. The health and safety and education of our students remain paramount. We will continue to work in close liaison with Public Health and the DfE during this period of potential disruption and appreciate your understanding if there are times when difficult decisions have to be made regarding some classes or cohorts.

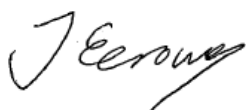
Remote education will continue to be in place, via TEAMS, for those students who are isolating and who feel well enough to engage with this.

## **Examinations**

All external and internal exams scheduled for this month will be happening as planned.

Once again, thank you for your understanding and support and we will continue to communicate with you on a regular basis throughout this term.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J E Crowe', written in a cursive style.

**J E Crowe**  
**Principal**