



16<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear parents/carers,

So we're at the end of the first academic term this year and about to head into the Christmas break ... whilst Covid continues to present challenges, our pupils continue to overcome them and a HUGE amount of hard work has gone on in school over the last three months. Our celebration assemblies this week have allowed us to acknowledge so many positive contributions and I'm so proud of all the achievement badges that pupils are now wearing on their blazers - just brilliant!

### Lateral Flow Testing prior to returning to school.

A reminder that secondary schools have been asked to test all pupils for Covid-19 with lateral flow tests prior to their return in January. Here are the arrangements for the start of the new term and these will be available on our website should you need to check them later.

**Please contact school via [admin@hydehighschool.uk](mailto:admin@hydehighschool.uk) if you would like to update consent details;** please note that queries to this email address will not be answered during the holiday (17<sup>th</sup> December to 4<sup>th</sup> January inclusive).

Returning to on-site learning		Lateral Flow Testing			
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January <b>All year groups learning remotely.</b>		<b>Years 7 and 11 should attend for testing</b> and will return straight home.			
		<b>Year 7 by surname</b>		<b>Year 11 by surname</b>	
		A	9:00am	A	1:15pm
		B	9:15am	B	1:30pm
		C – F	9:30am	C – J	1:45pm
		G – J	9:45am	K - R	2:15pm
		K – M	11:15am	S - Z	2:30pm
		N – S	11:30am		
T - Z	12:00pm				
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Years 7 and 11 in school.</b>  Year 7 arrive for an 8:40am start  Years 11 arrive for an 8:50am start	<b>Years 8 and 10 should attend for testing</b> and will return straight home.			
		<b>Year 8 by surname</b>		<b>Year 10 by surname</b>	
		A	8:45am	A	11:15am
		B	9:00am	B	11:30am
		C – H	9:15am	C – G	11:45am
I – L	9:45am	H – L	1:00pm		

	<b>Years 8 – 10 learning remotely.</b>	M – R	10:45am	M – R	1:30pm
		S - Z	11:15am	S – Z	2:00pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Years 7, 8, 10, 11 in school.</b>	<b>Year 9 should attend for testing</b> and will return straight home.			
	Year 7 start: 8:40am	<b>Year 9 by surname</b>			
	Year 8 start: 8:45am	A	9:00am		
	Year 10 start: 8:50am	B	9:15am		
	Year 11 start: 8:50am	C – F	9:30am		
	<b>Year 9 learning remotely.</b>	G – L	10:00am		
		M – R	11:00am		
		S - Z	11:30am		
From Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>All year groups in as normal.</b>	<b>Start time</b>		<b>Finish time</b>	
	<b>Year 7</b>	8:40am (Arrive on site from 8:35)		2:35pm	
	<b>Years 8 and 9</b>	8:45am (Arrive on site from 8:40)		2:40pm	
	<b>Years 10 and 11</b>	8:50am (Arrive on site from 8:45)		2:45pm	

Pupils who have recently tested positive for Covid-19 *can* still be tested as long as they have completed the 10-day isolation period and are symptom free.

As school reopens in January, we will really need your help to keep Covid at bay and to avoid disruption to learning. We really appreciate your support in the following ways:

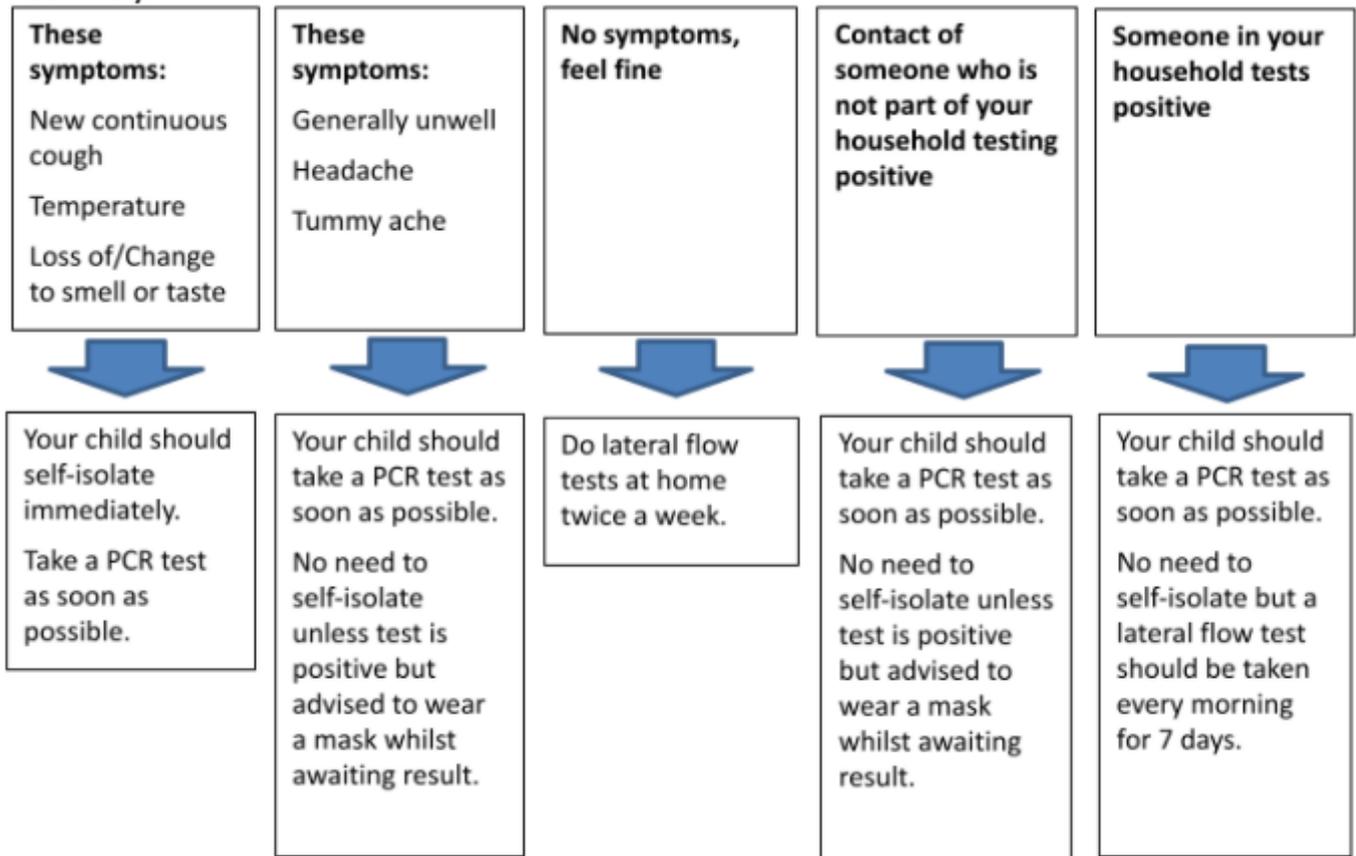
- Ensure that your child takes **a lateral flow test twice each week** if they have no symptoms. New test kits were issued this week and these tests are nasal swabs only, giving a result in just 15 minutes. Pupils can collect additional kits from Student Services should they need them.
- **If your child develops any of the main COVID symptoms they must NOT attend school.** They should self-isolate immediately and take a PCR test (not a lateral flow test). They should stay at home until they get their result; the rest of the family do not need to self-isolate.

The main symptoms are a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of the sense of smell and/or taste.

- Younger people, however, may just feel generally unwell, have a headache or complain of tummy ache and **if your child has any of these symptoms, they should take a PCR test.**
- If anyone in your household tests positive, everyone in your household should take a PCR test and children should take a lateral flow test each morning for a week to check for a negative result before coming to school.

Please note the updated guidance below relating to Covid symptoms:

Summary:



### Covid vaccinations for 12-16 year olds

We have also been informed that secondary schools will be expected to host the next round of **Covid vaccinations** for 12-16 year olds in the new year. Vaccines will be offered to pupils as follows:

- Pupils who have already had their first vaccine (in school or elsewhere) and are now eligible for a second dose.
- Pupils who have not yet been vaccinated against Covid-19 but now wish to be.
- Pupils who have turned 12 since the first round of vaccinations.

All the relevant information will be issued when we receive notice of our allocated dates from the Immunisation Team and consent forms will be sent home at that point.

Clearly the national situation regarding the omicron variant of Covid-19 is volatile and any **updates will be communicated via our website** or, if urgent, via text message. Please note that school is closed from 12:15pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December until 8:00am on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January and there will be no staff available during this period.

And finally, a reminder that **pupils will finish at approximately 12pm tomorrow** (staggered finish). My heartfelt thanks for all of your patience and support as we navigate our way through these unusual times. On behalf of the whole staff team at Hyde, I would like to send all of our pupils and families our very best wishes for the festive season. See you next year!

Keep safe,

*ARadcliffe*

Andrea Radcliffe  
Headteacher