

Dear parents,

On Monday (21st February), the Government set out its ongoing response to enable the country to manage COVID-19 as part of the [Living with COVID-19](#) plan. Several changes impact schools, which I wanted to share with you directly.

Dramatic reduction in cases at KSA

In the previous half term we had many cases of Covid-19 and had to institute a wide range of restrictions. As of today, across the whole school there have been only 8 pupil cases in the last 10 days, and so it is appropriate for us to follow government advice in removing Covid restrictions.

From yesterday, Monday 21st February

Staff and students in secondary schools are no longer encouraged to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing.

We will no longer issue test kits, but families may use existing kits they have or order these for free from the Government website or your local pharmacy until 1 April.

We will stop asking visitors to take a lateral flow test before coming onsite.

From Thursday 24th February

The legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test will end. As is the case at the moment, adults and children who test positive will be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least five full days and then continue to follow this guidance until they have tested negative on a lateral flow test on two consecutive days or until they have spent 10 full days at home.

Fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 will no longer be asked to test daily for seven days, and close contacts who are not fully vaccinated will not need to self-isolate.

Routine contact tracing will end. Previously we informed primary parents of individual cases, this will no longer be the case.

We are expecting more guidance from the Government on contact tracing and self-isolation on Thursday and will write to you again at the end of the week. We will also update you on our approach to risk from Covid-19 once that guidance is published.

Staying safe

We can all reduce the risk of catching and passing on COVID-19 by:

- Getting vaccinated
- Letting fresh air in if meeting indoors, or meet outside
- Considering wearing a face covering in crowded, enclosed spaces.
- Taking a PCR test if you have COVID-19 symptoms, and staying at home
- Avoiding contact with other people if you test positive; and
- Washing your hands and following advice to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'.

I do hope the above is clear, but if you do have any questions do speak to a member of staff at the school gate or email parents@kingsolomonacademy.org.

Kind regards,

Max Haimendorf
Principal