

28th November 2021

6pm

Dear Parents/Carers,

On Saturday 27 November, the Prime Minister announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK. The new measures will be introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the variant until we have more information. The government has today explained what this means for schools. They have outlined their advice [here](#).

These changes will take effect from tomorrow, Monday 29th November at King Solomon Academy:

### **Face coverings**

**All staff (Nursery, Primary, Secondary and operational); all visitors (including parents to both sites; and all secondary pupils (Year 7 to Year 13) must now wear face coverings in communal areas unless exempt.**

**If your child is in Secondary or 6<sup>th</sup> form, please send your child to school with a face mask unless they are exempt.**

### **Continue to test using Lateral Flow Device tests at home**

All staff and secondary pupils should continue to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests and report the results on Mondays and Thursdays. A reminder that if the result of this is positive, you must self-isolate straight away – [check if people you live with need to self-isolate](#); get a PCR test (a test that is sent to a lab) to confirm your result as soon as possible – [get a PCR test to check if you have COVID-19 on GOV.UK](#)

### **Test & Trace changes**

Test and Trace may contact you if you are a confirmed close contact of the Omicron variant. In addition to these, any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly and told to isolate.

### **Travel guidance**

There are changes to travel guidance, please ensure you understand the implication for any holiday plans in December and your return to school in January. All pupils must be in school and ready to learn on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

### **What is not changing**

At the moment there is **no requirement for us to return to bubbles, wear masks in classrooms or cease parent events or pupil trips.**

Overall, the government wants us to take a responsible approach to managing the risk of Covid-19 whilst also continue to prioritise pupils' education. We will continue to make reasonable assessments about the level of risk involved in all activities.

As ever, we are so grateful for your support. We will continue to communicate swiftly and openly with you about these important matters.

Kind regards,

Max Haimendorf

Principal