

Dear all Parents & Carers,

We hope this email finds you all safe and well.

We appreciate that there is a lot of information and advice around on various media platforms currently - which can make things confusing to understand, around what is expected in relation to Covid-19.

Please see below for hopefully a clear and precise breakdown of what to do in particular circumstances. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy.

Do I need to be testing at home?

Yes please, if possible. Ideally, students should be testing at home twice a week using the Lateral Flow Tests that are provided by the school or that can be picked up from local pharmacies, chemists or GPs. After the first day back testing, the school will be looking to continue to use the test-at-school option that was running before Christmas, to support this.

What happens if my child tests positive on a Lateral Flow Test?

If your child tests positive on a Lateral Flow Test, and they do not have symptoms, they should isolate for a minimum of 7 days. Please also inform us. They now do not need a follow up PCR test. They can re-test on a Lateral Flow on Day 6 and 7. If they are both negative, they can return to school after the day 7 test. If one of them is positive, they need to complete a full 10-day isolation.

What should I do if my child has symptoms?

If your child has at least one of the common Covid symptoms such as a dry repeated cough, loss of taste & smell and a high temperature they should immediately self-isolate and book a PCR test. Please make us aware of this and let us know when the test results come back. If they are negative, they can immediately return to school, if they are well enough.

What should I do if my child has a heavy cold?

You can increase the amount of Lateral Flow Tests you take. This will give you an indication of whether they are positive or not. If their symptoms get worse or do not improve, they should then isolate and book a PCR test. Unless your child's symptoms deteriorate, please trust the Lateral Flow Test result.

What happens when my child is deemed a close contact or someone in my home has Covid-19?

As your child is under 18, they do not need to self-isolate. However, it is recommended that they take Lateral Flow Tests daily, for a 7-day period. If at any time they develop the symptoms above, then they should immediately isolate and book a PCR test.

How do I know if my child has been a close contact at school?

Like every school currently, we have been managing multiple positive cases since September. On average, we are managing anywhere between 10 and 30 cases at any one time, across the school. Our advice is to support us in your child taking the necessary precautions (Hands - Face - Space) and testing regularly at home or giving us consent to test them in school weekly.

I want my child to have the vaccine, how do I book this?

In Peterborough, there is a walk-in vaccination centre for children aged between 12 and 15. This is open daily, between 8:30am and 4:30pm, and is open until 7:30pm on a Thursday. This is located in the Queensgate shopping centre.

My child had their first vaccine in school before Christmas, when will their second one be?

We are waiting to hear from the NHS immunisations team on our exact date, but we anticipate this to be before February half-term. We will let you know as soon as we possibly can.

How will my child access work whilst isolating at home?

Your child will be able to access work through Microsoft Teams, and their class team area. Students should know how to access this. The requirements for this are an internet connection at home and a device. Please get in contact with us if you need support with either of these two things.