

Ark Putney Academy

Pullman Gardens

London

SW15 3DG



Principal: Ms Alison Downey

Preparing every student to be a pillar of any community

Dear parent/carer,

At the start of the Autumn term, we updated our Outbreak Management Plan (OMP), which sets out how we will manage outbreaks of COVID-19 at the school or in the local community. We continue to closely monitor COVID-19 cases within our school community, and unfortunately, we have reached a level of cases where we need to take further action.

I am sure this news will cause some worry and concern, but please be reassured that we are reviewing and reinforcing testing, hygiene and ventilation measures already in place. We will do everything we can to keep staff and students safe.

We have contacted the DFE Coronavirus Helpline for further advice. Having considered this advice, we need to implement the following additional measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the school:

All assemblies will not be held in person until half term, these will move online.

- We will be bringing back masks whilst in the corridors and moving around the school, these will not need to be worn when seated in lessons.
- All staff meetings will be moved online and held remotely unless permission given by the headteacher.

COVID-19 testing

Testing remains essential in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within our school communities.

We have reminded our staff of the importance of testing using rapid lateral flow devices every 3-4 days. Through form tutors we have reminded all students of the importance of testing using rapid lateral flow devices every 3-4 days. All results (void, negative and positive) must be reported to the NHS (<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>) and any positive results must also be reported to the attendance officer Ms Scully. Please support us by checking that your child is testing and reporting the results. Additional tests can be collected from reception, with the next roll out of test kits being issued this Friday.

Hygiene

Maintaining good hygiene is a key measure to reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Please remind your child to:

- wash their hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash their hands as soon as they get home
- cover their mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not their hands) when they cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash their hands afterwards

We will continue to ensure students have regular handwashing opportunities: before and after eating, after breaks, changing rooms etc. Hand sanitiser is available throughout the school, and we will make sure that children wash their hands often.

The school will continue with enhanced cleaning arrangements, paying particular attention to surfaces that are regularly touched. We will also keep spaces well ventilated and will not allow anyone with COVID-19 symptoms to enter the site.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Downey', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ms A Downey
PRINCIPAL