

Ark Putney Academy
Pullman Gardens
London
SW15 3DG



Principal: Ms Alison Downey

Preparing every student to be a pillar of any community

28th February, 2022

Dear parents/carers,

This week the Government has now updated its specific guidance on COVID-19 for schools, and I wanted to share with you what we are continuing to do to keep your children safe.

We are currently reviewing our COVID-19 risk assessment and we will continue to:

- encourage everyone to maintain good hand hygiene by regularly washing their hands or using hand sanitiser;
- encourage everyone to maintain good respiratory hygiene by using tissues to catch coughs and sneezes;
- keep our school buildings well ventilated; and
- maintain high levels of cleaning.

The legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test has ended. However, there is no change in the guidance of what you should do. Please do **not** send your child to school if they have symptoms of COVID-19 (a new and continuous cough, a high temperature, or a loss of or change to their sense of taste or smell) or have tested positive. If your child displays one of these symptoms, they should stay at home and take a PCR test.

Unless the test is negative, your child should stay at home for 10 full days following the day they tested positive or began displaying symptoms. However, it is safe for your child to return to school if they no longer have a fever, and if they take a rapid lateral flow test on days 5 and 6 and both are negative. (If one or both tests is positive, they should keep taking one test a day, and can return to school when they have received two negative tests, one day after the other).

If someone else in your household has COVID-19 but your child has no symptoms and has not tested positive, then it is safe for them to come to school, and they should do so and should not stay at home.

If your child has to stay at home due to COVID-19 but is well enough to learn, we will continue to provide remote education with live or recorded teaching and time for them to independently complete tasks or assignments.

Ark

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Please note we are no longer issuing lateral flow test kits or asking students to take these tests twice per week. However, you can continue to [order](#) tests online or [collect](#) them from your local pharmacy, if you wish.

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective and give you and your children the best protection against COVID-19. Everyone aged 12 and over can get the vaccine, and we encourage you to [look into this](#) if you haven't yet done so.

Students are no longer required to wear masks but if they wish to do so they may. As much as possible we want to return to normal and we will resume having live assemblies in the main school hall. We also will be resuming having parental events in person where appropriate starting with Options Evening on March 2nd.

I would like to reassure you that we will continue to monitor the number of cases of COVID-19 at school, and if the numbers of cases rise rapidly, we will seek additional public health advice and respond rapidly to implement additional control measures if these are required to reduce transmission of COVID-19 within the school.

I hope the above is clear, but if you do have any questions do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Best wishes



Alison Downey

Principal

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