

15 July 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

RE: Testing, Self-Isolation and Contact Tracing from Monday, 19 July 2021

Following on from the announcement from the Prime Minister on Monday, 12 July 2021 regarding the movement to Step 4 of the Roadmap, I am writing to you today to outline the key changes that will come into effect from Monday, 19 July 2021.

The Department for Education has provided schools with operational guidance to follow as part of the move to Step 4. The Schools COVID-19 operation guidance can be found here (https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/999689/Schools_guidance_Step_4_update_FINAL.pdf).

As we are so close to the end of the academic year, we will not be making any significant changes to the way in which the academy operates as per the current risk assessment. Below I have outlined the main procedures we will continue to follow until the end of term:

- The attendance of students at school remains compulsory. We do, therefore, expect all students to remain in attendance at the academy until the end of the academic year (Thursday, 22 July 2021);
- Students will continue to operate in their 'bubbles' until the end of the academic year;
- Students will continue to wear face coverings outside of classrooms, including on school / public transport, due to the high number of COVID-19 cases Leeds is experiencing currently;
- Students will continue to wash their hands on entry to the academy building and use hand sanitiser provided elsewhere;
- Increased cleaning regimes will continue to be in place until the end of the academic year;
- Classrooms and communal spaces will continue to be well ventilated to all, for the flow of fresh air.

Testing and Self Isolation

If a student or anyone in their household has symptoms or have returned a positive COVID-19 test result, the student should not attend school and should isolate in line with the national guidance.

If your child or anyone in their household has had a positive lateral flow test, they should arrange to have a confirmatory PCR test as soon as possible. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test and is negative, it overrides the self-test and the student can return to school **as long as the student does not have symptoms of COVID-19.**

We would expect parents and carers to notify the academy of test results, so that we can mark students' attendance on our registers accordingly. This can be done by contacting the attendance team or by emailing info@farnley.leeds.sch.uk.

Students who are currently serving a period of self-isolation will need to continue to complete this before returning to the academy as per the communication you will have already received.

Contact Tracing

From Monday, 19 July 2021, the academy will no longer be responsible for identifying close contacts of positive cases. This responsibility will be undertaken by NHS Test and Trace.

Students and families should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. This specific guidance can be found here (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>).

In closing, I would like to thank all families for their continued support during these difficult and testing times. I will write to you separately regarding the arrangements for September. In the meantime, if you do have any questions or queries regarding the content of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the academy on info@farnley.leeds.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully



Mr C Stokes
Principal