

January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you had a lovely Christmas break and we wish you a happy and successful new year. There have been many announcements and changes regarding COVID-19 since school broke up and I wanted to write to you to confirm what this means for us all so that we can work together to ensure we move forward and focus on teaching and learning and not just COVID.

Face Coverings - The wearing of face coverings is now compulsory in lessons and communal areas (unless medically exempt), so in all indoor areas as per the Government guidance. We are reducing all meetings with visitors in school unless it is essential, and ask that all visitors wear face coverings. Students should ensure they wear face coverings when travelling to school on public transport.

Self-isolation period - Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals may now take a lateral flow test on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. If both of these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting on day 8.

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take a lateral flow test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. If this happens they should book a PCR test. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

We also recommend that your child continues to test twice a week on a Wednesday and Sunday - test kits will be provided by school.

We ask that all of our community take these precautions seriously to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, keep us in school and keep us as safe as possible and discuss these points with your child at home. As we approach the start of the new term, we hope there is as little disruption as possible for us all so we can enjoy a smooth start to the term and can focus on learning.

Lateral flow tests for the safe return to school

Following Government guidance and to help school re-start as safely as possible, we will be asking students to complete 2 Lateral Flow COVID tests before we return.

As in September, we would like your child to perform the tests at home so you can supervise and support your child to complete their tests. The home test kits were given out to students before we broke up for the Christmas break or you can collect home testing kits for free from a local pharmacy. We ask that students complete their 1st test on Sunday 2nd and their 2nd test on Tuesday 4th January and log the results using the link below. If you are unable to test at home, we have testing facilities in school for those that really need it and after a negative result the students can return to lessons. **We begin the new term on Wednesday 5th January.**

Headteacher: Mr Scott Albon BSc (Hons) PGCE MEd

Barnwood Park School St Lawrence Road Barnwood Gloucester GL4 3QU

Tel: 01452 530389 Email: admin@barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk Website: www.barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk

Students Reporting Lateral Flow Self-Test Results to School

Please inform school of the test result using this link <http://bit.ly/studentcovidtestresults>

You will also need to log the test results with the NHS via the gov.uk website <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Students who test positive in either of their lateral flow tests **should not attend school** and will need to isolate and book a PCR test to confirm the positive result. If this occurs please inform school using attendance@barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk.

We would like to remind you of the importance of good attendance for your child to help them meet their potential and gain the best possible outcomes and future opportunities. Please work with our attendance officer, form tutors and pastoral leaders to ensure your child arrives on time and we overcome any barriers to ensure your child beats our target of 95% attendance.

Kind regards



Mr Albon
Headteacher

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