

Jan 2022 Covid-19 Precautions and returning to the Academy

13th December 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Covid-19 Precautions

The government have made some changes around Covid rules. These include:

- Asking adults (and those over 12) to wear face coverings on public transport and lots of public areas like shops
- Asking people to work from home where possible (this does not include schools)

What does this mean for the academy?

Face Coverings

All students are required to wear a face covering in communal areas at school (unless they are exempt). They must also wear a face covering when using public transport. Whilst there is no requirement, students are permitted to wear their face covering in classrooms too.

To limit our impact on the environment, students should wear a cloth face covering where possible.

For parents - Please wear a face covering (unless you are medically exempt) when you are picking up and dropping off your child. This will help to reduce the risk of Covid spreading. If it is necessary for you to come into school, we will ask you to wear a face covering at all times and if possible, to take a lateral flow test beforehand.

Testing

Please continue to support your child to test at home, twice weekly (if they consent). This is a very powerful tool in reducing the spread of Covid-19 by people who do not have symptoms.

Vulnerable/Clinically Extremely children

The government have said that children who are medically vulnerable do not have to shield at this time, however some families may have received specific advice from their doctor, and this should be followed if this is the case. If this is relevant to your child, please contact the academy to discuss arrangements.

Over the holidays

We are all looking forward to the upcoming holiday. To help reduce the spread of Covid-19, please remember

1. Please support your child to test across the holiday. You can now [order free lateral flow tests](#) to see if you have Covid-19 (search lateral flow tests.)
2. Should you or your child have symptoms of Covid-19 [please get a PCR test as soon as possible](#) (search 'free PCR Test.')
3. If you are planning on [travelling abroad, the rules have changed](#) (search 'travel from UK').
4. Vaccination, and in some instances vaccination boosters, are now available for all adults and children over 12 who consent. Please support your child to receive the vaccine if you as a family consent. This will help to reduce the risk for everyone.

Returning to school in January

The Government have asked that all secondary students (who consent) to complete one on-site asymptomatic test when they return to school in January, and then continue to complete tests twice weekly at home.

So that we can ensure the testing process goes as smoothly as possible, we will be following the Department for Education guidance by staggering the start time/date of the return to school as follows. So that we can ensure the testing process goes as smoothly as possible, we will be testing all students as stated below.

Students will attend the academy 5th January 2022 for testing and then return home. We will then contact you if your child has a positive Lateral Flow Test. Your child will then need to have a PCR in order to return safely.

You child will enter the academy from the school walk gate and will be guided into the Dance studio where they will administer a test themselves.


| Year Group | Test Date | Test Time |
|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Year 7 | 5 th January 2022 | 8.30 |
| Year 8 | 6 th January 2022 | 9.30 |
| Year 9 | 6 th January 2022 | 10.30 |
| Year 10 | 5 th January 2022 | 11.30 |
| Year 11 | 5 th January 2022 | 12.30 |

All students will then return on 6th January 2022 as normal.

We do not yet know what the rate of Covid-19 will be in our local area in January. Therefore, we are preparing this week so that we can introduce more precautions in the new year if necessary.

If you have questions regarding any of the above, please contact the school office by emailing office@oasisimmingham.org. Thank you as always for your understanding and support during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Singh", written in a cursive style.

Principal