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04 January 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: Return to School Update (0054-21NLI)

Happy New Year!

This letter contains the below content:

- **Facemasks are to be worn in corridors and classrooms**
- **Lateral flow testing is to continue twice a week**
- **Self-isolation guidance given**
- **Parents' Evenings will be virtual**
- **Visits and Events will be reviewed**

I would like to start by wishing you a Happy New Year and I hope 2022 is filled with happiness and health for you and your family. We are very excited for the return of the pupils on **Wednesday 5th January** and this letter will outline further guidance of how this will be done safely, as we follow the government guidance.

Wearing Face Masks

Unless exempt, all at Longfield will continue to wear face coverings in school corridors; when pupils enter the school at the start of the day; at lesson changeover; break and lunchtimes (in the corridor and the canteen) and when leaving the classroom at the end of the school day whilst in the corridor.

To tackle the Omicron variant, it is strongly recommended all staff, visitors and pupils also wear masks in classrooms. Please ensure your child is fully aware this will be expected from Wednesday 5th January, until the government guidance changes.

Lateral Flow Testing

On Wednesday 5th January, all pupils for whom we hold consent, will complete a Lateral Flow Test at school. All pupils should continue to complete Lateral Flow Tests at home. If you require more test kits, they can be collected from school reception. We encourage both staff and pupils to test twice weekly. If you have a positive Lateral Flow test you should:

- self-isolate straight away and check if people you live with need to self-isolate
- get a PCR test to confirm your result as soon as possible

Self-Isolation

On Wednesday 22nd December 2021, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19, was reduced to 7 days in most circumstances. 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 and may return to school from day 8.



For more information, visit [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)

If your child has been identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 they should take a lateral flow test, every day for seven days. Pupils should continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Further information and guidance for parents / carers can be found at [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19)

Please note that all relevant information regarding Covid-19 (including the links above) can be accessed via the following Swift Academies link.
[COVID-19 | Swift Academies](#)

Parents' Evening

The below Parents' Evenings are scheduled to take place this term. Due to current circumstances, these will be completed virtually. Further information regarding this will be issued closer to the time.

- Year 11 – Thursday 20th January 2022
- Year 9 – Thursday 3rd February 2022 (including Options Evening)
- Year 10 – Thursday 17th February 2022

Visits and Events

All visits and events, both at school and external, that are due to take place this term will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to ensure that national guidance is met.

Finally, a reminder of the key basic equipment all pupils should bring to school on Wednesday; all pupils have been given a pencil case and Knowledge Planner; pupils are to bring both items to school daily. KS3 pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 are also expected to bring a reading book to school daily. Previous information about January Readiness is outlined in our letter issued to you on Friday 17th December 2021 – a link to which can be found here:

<https://longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2021/03/0053-21NLI-January-Ready-Information.pdf>

Thank you for your on-going support. Please do not hesitate to contact the school from 8:30am on Wednesday 5th January should you require any further clarification. As we expect communication lines to be extremely busy, if you are unable to reach reception on your first attempt, please leave a voicemail or email enquiries@longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk and our reception team will respond as soon as possible.

You will also find extensive information on our school website, via mySchoolApp and from regular social media communication updates.

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Lindsay
Head of School