



The Loyne Specialist School

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Working together... Valuing achievement

22nd February 2022

Dear parent/carer

You will be aware that the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, announced yesterday that COVID restrictions in England will be coming to an end. Whilst this is pleasing news and something we have all looked forward to and hoped for during the dark days of the pandemic, it is still very important that the school follows current Public Health advice.

At this moment in time the advice remains the same. I am pleased to share that within school we are no longer operating the Outbreak Management Plan. Pupils and staff can once again move around the school and assemblies can be held together and not on Zoom. However, should we get an outbreak of cases in school we may need to revert to this plan, and this would be unsettling for the whole community.

We are currently awaiting an update from Dr Sakthi (Director of Public Health for Lancashire) and the DfE on the next steps in our risk management, however, until then we urge you to continue the excellent work you have been doing in preventing the spread of this virus.

As a specialist setting, as per the new 'Living with COVID guidance' twice weekly testing is still important for our secondary and FE pupils who can tolerate the swab. Equally if your child shows any signs of the virus then we advise you to ensure they have a PCR (whilst testing is still available) and keep them at home for at least 5 full days. Although the legal requirement to self-isolate has been removed we urge you to not send in your child if you suspect or know that they have COVID. Much of our school community are vulnerable, and although almost all of our staff and many of our pupils are vaccinated, the affects of contracting COVID can still be significant, particularly for those who have underlying health conditions. As Mr Johnson shared, the virus is still with us, but we must now take personal responsibility to reduce its spread.

We are near the end of this long and disruptive journey, let's take the last few steps cautiously and slowly so that our pupils can benefit from the full holistic curriculum that enables them to get the most out of school and make the progress they deserve.

Once again thank you for your patience, understanding and sense of civic responsibility. It is appreciated more than you know.

Yours sincerely

Susan Campbell
Headteacher

