



THE MILFORD ACADEMY
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Companies House No. 8163499

Wednesday 1st December 2021

COVID-19 updates / School Performances

Dear Parents & Carers,

As you will mostly know the government have taken the decision to re-introduce measures this week in response to the new Omicron variant of COVID-19. These measures mainly relate to the use of face coverings. I wanted to update you on how we are being asked in school to respond to this. The decisions the school takes have been, and will continue to be, based on the advice we receive from the Department for Education (DfE), Public Health and our own school risk assessments...

- Face coverings do not need to be worn when dropping off/collecting children from school but I would encourage you to use them if you need to gather for any period of time when doing so.
- Children will be allowed to mix with different classes/year groups at playtimes and lunchtimes – we are not currently needing to return to any form of bubble system.
- The nativity / Christmas performances will be going ahead currently. Further information about these can be found below.
- Staff will wear face coverings when gathering in communal areas and moving around school indoors unless they are exempt.
- All visitors will be allowed in the building, but they will be asked to wear a face covering unless exempt.
- School trips off site will go ahead. Staff, parents & carers will be asked to wear a face covering when at any indoor site unless exempt.

We are continuing to monitor cases within school and encourage you to continue to make us aware of any cases within your households. Currently, the number of confirmed cases in school is relatively low compared to some other school settings but we are aware that this could change quickly and could lead to us having to put further restrictions in place – we will keep you informed if this does happen.

We never want to have to send children home but are required under current government guidance to send home any children or staff who are displaying COVID-19 symptoms. Any child who is displaying COVID-19 symptoms should not be brought to school and the recommendation is that they are taken for a PCR test – they should only return when a negative result has been returned **and** COVID-19 symptoms have stopped.



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School Performances

All of our school nativity / performances are still planned to take place with parents, carers able to attend – this is limited to two adults per child per performance. We are also asking that you please read and follow the guidelines below to ensure we can do this in the safest way possible for everyone...

- Performances will take place in one of the school halls – these rooms will be well ventilated to maintain airflow.
- Attendance is strictly limited to those with tickets.
- We will ask that face coverings are worn by all adults attending unless you are exempt.
- Staff members in attendance will wear face coverings unless exempt.
- There will be hand sanitiser stations at the entrances to the halls.
- Attendance at any of the events is a personal decision based on your own health conditions.
- No one should attend if they are currently required to isolate or if they have any COVID-19 symptoms.
- We encourage all adults attending to use a Lateral-Flow Test (LFT) kit prior to attending.
- The length of performances will be kept to a minimum to limit the time that adults are gathered indoors.
- We will return children to their classrooms immediately after performances have finished.
- Children will not be permitted to leave with adults after any performances have finished unless there is a valid reason for this.
- Additional cleaning will take place before and after performances.

These are our current plans, should the number of cases in school / our community rise significantly over the coming days we may well have to move to performances being recorded without us having audiences in – this is not what we want to do but ultimately the health and safety of our pupils, staff and community is the priority.

I thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Best wishes,

Mr R Perkins
Head Teacher



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