

29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

As you may be aware, new guidance from the Department for Education has been given regarding face coverings in schools due to the emergence of the Omicron variant. This guidance is expected to be reviewed at Christmas and we will keep you informed of any changes.

### Face Coverings

With immediate effect all staff and visitors to our school will be required to wear face coverings in communal areas in line with this updated advice.

Students are also required to wear face coverings in communal areas, and on public and dedicated school transport. Students who fail to wear a face covering will be sanctioned. The requirement to wear a face covering does not apply to those who are exempt.

### Control measures and risk assessments

To support high levels of attendance, we follow the control measures recommended by the Department for Education to reduce the risk of spread of Covid-19. These are enhanced levels of cleaning, increased ventilation, promoting hand and respiratory hygiene, testing (where appropriate and advised) and the management of positive cases. A robust risk assessment remains in place, please see it here

<https://www.beckfootupperheaton.org/seecmsfile/?id=4848>

We will continue to monitor cases and take actions as required. This may include implementing our outbreak management plan.

### Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) and Lab-based (PCR) Testing

It is essential that all in our community over secondary school age continue to test regularly (twice weekly) using **LFT** rapid test kits.

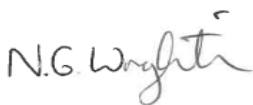
Please ensure anybody with symptoms has a **PCR** test (at a testing centre) as soon as possible.

Our schools remain open for learning. The precautions above will keep our schools open minimising disruption to learning, as well as reducing the spread of the virus and protect the most vulnerable.

Further Covid 19 information on schools can be found here, [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)

If you need assistance with any of the above or any other kind of support, please get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr N G Wrightson  
Headteacher

CEO: Shirley Watson

Chair of Academy Trustees: John Winkley

Head Teacher: Graeme Wrightson



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