

Wellington Road, Taunton, Somerset TA1 5AU Tel: (01823) 274073 Fax: (01823) 274080 Email: office@castle.somerset.sch.uk www.castleschool.co.uk

> Mr J Lamb Headteacher

1 March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all well and you had a good half term.

As you will be aware there have been changes in respect of the COVID-19 requirements. In line with Public Health guidance, if students are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change of their sense of smell or taste) they should get a PCR test. Whilst waiting for the result of the PCR test or if they have tested positive via a PCR test, students should isolate at home.

**Isolation Period if Positive PCR:** Isolate for at least 5 days. If at day 5 and day 6 (at least 24 hours between each test) the student obtains two negative LFT results and does not have a temperature, they can come out of isolation. If the LFT results are still positive, students should continue to take daily tests until 2 negative results are received. If 2 negative results are not obtained during the 10-day period, students can come out of isolation after 10 full days from first day of symptoms or the positive result, even though some COVID symptoms may remain ie, cough, loss of taste and/or smell.

## Students do not need to wear a face covering when in school or to complete the lateral flow tests twice weekly.

The school has enhanced cleaning measures within the school and windows will be left open to increase the ventilation in the classrooms and communal areas.

Please remind your child to regularly wash/sanitise their hands and to maintain social distance where feasible.

Assemblies will return to normal enabling full House and Year assemblies. Enrichment activities will be provided across mixed Year settings.

Children will be able to queue for break and lunch in either the Main Hall or the New Dining Hall.

The main defence against COVID is to receive the vaccination. **The school will be facilitating the Somerset SAINT Immunisation Team during the week of 21 March 2022.** You can also take your child to one of the walk-in centres for the vaccination, if you haven't already done so.

Thank you as always for your continued support, it is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Mr Lamb Headteacher