



Atlantic Academy Portland

an Aspirations Academy

Miss Heppell - Principal of Primary
Mrs Bishop - Principal of Secondary

Maritime House
Southwell Business Park
Portland, Dorset. DT5 2NA

Tel: 01 305 820262
Email: Office@atlantic-aspirations.org

www.atlantic-aspirations.org

3rd January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

Re: Face Masks Covid Testing in January

I hope you have all managed to have a wonderful Christmas and New Year break in what continues to be a very unusual time for us all. As you are aware, we have asked that secondary school students undertake one on-site test, on return in January ([Principal's Letter 14th Dec](#)). This will help boost testing participation and reduce transmission after a period of social mixing during the holidays. Students are also encouraged to continue testing twice weekly at home and to report all results to NHS Test and Trace and to Atlantic via the confidential link on our website [here](#).

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to **7 days in most circumstances**, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals may now take LFD tests 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**. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to school from day 8.

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, **should take an LFD test every day for seven days** and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Consent reminder (if not already given)

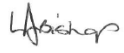
Whilst we are not able to insist that all students are tested we do, however, strongly encourage everyone to give consent and help us keep everyone in our school and wider community safe. We would kindly request that all consents are provided 48 hours before the students are due to come in and take their test. Students who are aged 16 or over are able to give verbal consent themselves in school, however we would still prefer that this is given for them in advance. If you have not already given your consent, the link is [here](#)

Updated guidance on wearing face masks in classrooms

From Sunday 2 January it is recommended that face coverings are worn in classrooms where pupils in year 7-11 are educated. The advice is short term only, to support pupils and teachers as they return to school this term and builds on the existing proportionate guidance that recommends face coverings for all adults and pupils, in Year 7-11, in communal areas of all settings. We are updating our guidance to reflect this. The advice on face coverings in classrooms will be in place until **Wednesday 26 January**, when Plan B regulations are currently scheduled to expire, at which point it will be reviewed

Finally I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Bishop'.

Mrs L Bishop Principal of Secondary