

27 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As half term approaches, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support as the national restrictions are gradually eased.

### Contact tracing over half term

As we start the half term period, we have been asked by the Department for Education to make you aware of the following arrangements for reporting any positive cases during the half term holiday so that we can continue to support NHS Test and Trace; identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation where necessary.

Therefore, if your child tests positive for COVID-19 over half term, having **developed symptoms within 2 days of being at school** (before 3.30pm on Sunday 30 May), please contact the school as soon as possible via the email [office@driffieldschool.org.uk](mailto:office@driffieldschool.org.uk). We can then inform close contacts via our InTouch messaging system.

However, if the symptoms have developed more than 2 days since being at school (after 3.30pm on Sunday 30 May), please follow contact tracing instructions provided by [NHS Test and Trace](#).

This only applies during the holiday period. During term time please continue to let the school know, as quickly as possible, by phoning reception or by the email above as previously.

### Lateral Flow Tests

The use of a twice weekly lateral flow test continues to play an important part in preventing the spread of the virus. Therefore, we would encourage you to continue supporting your children in taking the tests at home, including during the half term holiday.

A final test should be carried out immediately prior to the return to school, either the night before (i.e. Sunday 6 June) or the Monday morning of the first day back (i.e. Monday 7 June). This is to ensure any positive cases are identified and isolated prior to coming back into school.

If a home testing kit produces a positive result, the student testing positive (plus all household members and close contacts) will need to self-isolate and must not return to school. Following a positive home test result, a confirmatory PCR test will be required. The [instruction booklet](#) gives guidance on how to arrange this.

### **Current Travel Advice**

We have also been asked to draw your attention to the current [government travel advice](#) for anyone considering a trip abroad and the potential educational implications of the requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return. The advice states, “those arriving from a ‘[red-list](#)’ country, or having transited through one in the past 10 days, must quarantine in [a government-approved facility](#) with a parent or legal guardian rather than at home.”

I am hopeful that the weather will improve shortly to enable everyone to have an enjoyable and restful half term.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Dalton".

Mrs D Dalton  
Deputy Headteacher