

Headteacher: Mr P Norris L.LB (Hons), MA, NPQH

Tuesday 22nd February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will no doubt have heard the announcement last night from the Prime Minister that ALL Covid-19 restrictions will be lifted from Thursday 24th February 2022. In terms of education announcements, the following points were made:

- Twice weekly asymptomatic testing guidance has been lifted as of today for all settings
 <u>except</u> for special schools, AP and specialist SEND units in mainstream schools including
 specialist FE SEND provision. This means that the twice weekly testing of staff and students
 at De La Salle will now end with immediate effect.
- If someone under the age of 18 tests positive they will be advised to stay at home, this is the same advice for all adults.

In terms of wider announcements the following points were made:

- From Thursday, people with a positive test will no longer need to self-isolate and routine contact tracing will end.
- Free testing will end from April 1st for the general public, including those with symptoms.
- If anyone tests positive or is symptomatic they are advised to stay at home this will be reviewed on the 1st April.
- The government will continue to provide free tests for symptomatic people for the oldest age groups and those who are most vulnerable.
- People most vulnerable to Covid will be offered an additional booster vaccine from the spring.

The new approach to 'Living with Covid' will, I'm sure, take some time to get used to as the control measures and testing processes have become part of our daily lives. It does not mean, however, that Covid has gone. The Prime Minister explained that these matters are now a case of personal responsibility. If your child is displaying symptoms of Covid or is unwell, please ensure that you take responsible and reasonable steps to ensure you limit the spread of any illnesses by following all government recommendations.

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Mr P Norris Headteacher