

14th December 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update - Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19

We have received the following update today regarding daily testing for those who have been close contacts of a case of COVID-19. We are keen to do everything we can to ensure that we can keep school open for face-to-face education.

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19

All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the Online Reporting System and to their setting.

- If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow the advice set out in the Sunday 12 December press release. This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.
- If they test positive, they should self-isolate and order a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.

For primary aged children LFD test kits are available through the usual routes (community test sites, local pharmacies or online).

Children under five years old do not need to take part in daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 and do not need to isolate.



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**Should
my child
attend
school?**



- All children **MUST attend school unless they are ill.**
- Children do not need to self-isolate or miss school if a member of their household or a contact, has COVID including the Omicron variant.
- Instead, they will need to book a PCR test and take a daily Lateral Flow Device test for 7 days.
- Children can continue coming to school so long as they have no symptoms and the test results are negative.



- If your child develops COVID symptoms at home, they should stay at home and should book a PCR test), NOT a Lateral Flow test.
- If your child develops COVID symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PCR test.
- If your child tests positive for COVID, they will need to self-isolate. The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but instead should book a PCR test and take daily LFDs for 7 days.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Coats
Head of School



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