

4 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly welcome back to school and Happy New Year!

I hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and hope that not too many of you have had to isolate through the holiday period. It has been great today to welcome all the children back to school.

We have had contact from a few families with queries about isolation and what to do if household members test positive with Covid-19.

Please see the information below regarding changes to isolation from 10 days to 7 and isolation for household members.

**Isolation period following positive testing**

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period the 10 full days of self –isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5. 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 your education setting from day 8.

**Household contacts**

If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 you are at significantly higher risk of becoming infected yourself.

If you are **fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months**, and you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, **you are not legally required to self-isolate**.

If you are aged 5 years and over and live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, and are not legally required to self-isolate, you are **strongly advised** to:

* take an LFD test every day for 7 days, or until 10 days after the household member who has COVID-19 started their self-isolation period if this is earlier

**If you take an LFD test and the result is positive**, you should immediately self-isolate to prevent you from passing the infection on to other people. You should [arrange to have a PCR test](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test). If this PCR test result is positive, you must self-isolate and [follow the advice for people who have COVID-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection#SymptomsPositiveTest).

**If this PCR test result is negative**, you can stop self-isolating but you should continue to take your daily LFD tests.

If your daily LFD test result is negative, it is likely that you were not infectious at the time the test was taken. Continue to take daily LFT tests.

Children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who have been identified as a close contact should continue to attend the setting as normal.

Regular LFD tests are not recommended for children aged under 5. If they live with someone who has COVID-19 they are not legally required to self-isolate but you should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19 and arrange for them to take a PCR test as soon as possible.

**Link to guidance**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

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We will do all we can in the coming weeks and months to ensure that the education of our children is not disrupted.

Yours sincerely

Louise Jones

Executive Headteacher



