



January 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year 2022 and welcome back to the spring term! I hope you all enjoyed a lovely break with your children.

It is exciting to be back for a full term of fantastic learning, although this term may potentially be challenging once again, due to the current significant number of cases of COVID nationally and the high transmission rates of the Omicron variant.

Whilst we will do all we can to prevent spread, there is a risk that we may experience a significant number of cases in school at some point again this term. **Please remember that ventilation is key, so our windows are open at all times across the school day, regardless of how cold it is. Please send your child in layers to keep warm in class, even on PE days.**

Our priority is to keep school open. Online learning would be a last resort and would occur on a short term basis, if we are unable to safely staff school.

Updated Guidance – January 2022

Symptoms and Isolation

If children have symptoms – a continuous cough, loss of taste and smell or a high temperature - they should not attend school. They are expected to get a PCR test and should isolate until the result is known. If negative, they can return to school. If positive, they must isolate for at least 7 days. On days 6 and 7, they should do a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test and if they are both negative (and they have no temperature) they are allowed to return to school on day 8. If they do not have an LFD test on days 6 and 7, they must isolate for the full 10 days. **Please see the attached flow chart for isolation details, to help you understand the latest guidance.**

The new Omicron variant reportedly presents a different set of symptoms – these include fatigue, headaches and a sore throat, but are not officially confirmed. If your child shows these symptoms, then please consider doing an LFD test.

If someone in your household tests positive or if children are confirmed as a contact of someone who has tested positive, they are still allowed to come to school, but they should carry out an LFD test every day for 7 days. If the test is negative, they can still attend school.

I know you will support us to keep our families and community safe. If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact school. If you need any advice, please just ask.

Please can all parents and carers continue to wear masks on site and follow distancing guidance, where possible; please also continue to LFD test your children, if possible, every Wednesday and Sunday evening to reduce the number of asymptomatic cases in school too. Let's all do our best to keep school safe and open.

Many thanks,

A Scott

Diary Dates

Mon 31 Jan / Tues 1 Feb

Thurs 3 Feb / Fri 4 Feb

Tues 8 Feb

Fri 11 Feb

Mon 21 Feb

Fri 1 April

Tues 19 April

Bike Training Y5

Bike Training Y6

Safer Internet Day

Close for half-term

School re-opens

Close for Easter

School re-opens

Communication Reminder

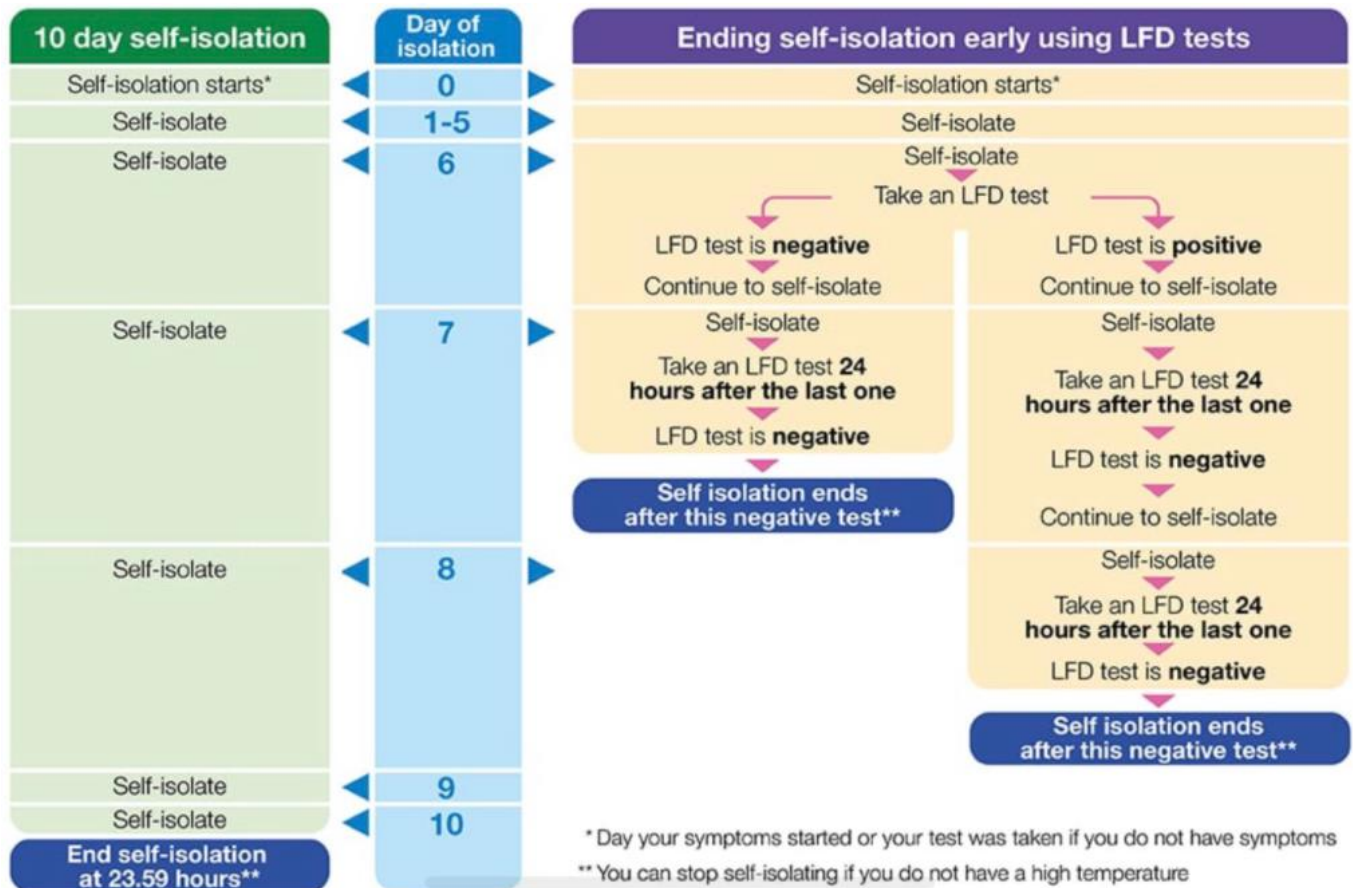
Please keep checking ClassDojo regularly, as we are still using this to communicate with all parents – particularly information relating to just your child's class. General communication is via the MCAS App. Please ensure you have access to this App so important messages are not missed. Thank you.

Self-isolation Guidance – January 2022

Please can all parents follow ALL steps (via the log-in to NHS Test and Trace) when reporting a positive result to Test and Trace, as school needs to see evidence of the official return date of every child, from this system. Thank you!

Please note – the first day of isolation is Day 0 and not Day 1.

If children do not undertake LFD tests, as below, they must isolate for the full 10 days.



From 11 January 2022 in England, it looks likely that PCR tests will be halted for those testing positive with an LFD test, if they are asymptomatic. Isolation periods would remain as above. Further details will be circulated when all changes are confirmed.