



# GILLIBRAND Primary School



Grosvenor Road, Chorley, Lancashire. PR7 2PJ  
Tel: 01257 274983

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you have had a good Christmas and Happy New Year!

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> January, I received an update from the DfE with all the latest guidance for schools. A summary of the guidance is below:

### Attendance:

All pupils should continue to attend face-to-face education unless they are self-isolating in line with government guidance. Attendance continues to be mandatory for all pupils. All absences must be reported to the school office by email or by telephone. Messages can be left on the school answer phone if you wish to report an absence out of school hours. Please do not send your child to school if they are displaying any of the main symptoms of Covid or the symptoms linked to the Omicron variant, which includes runny nose, sneezing, itchy throat, and cold like symptoms.

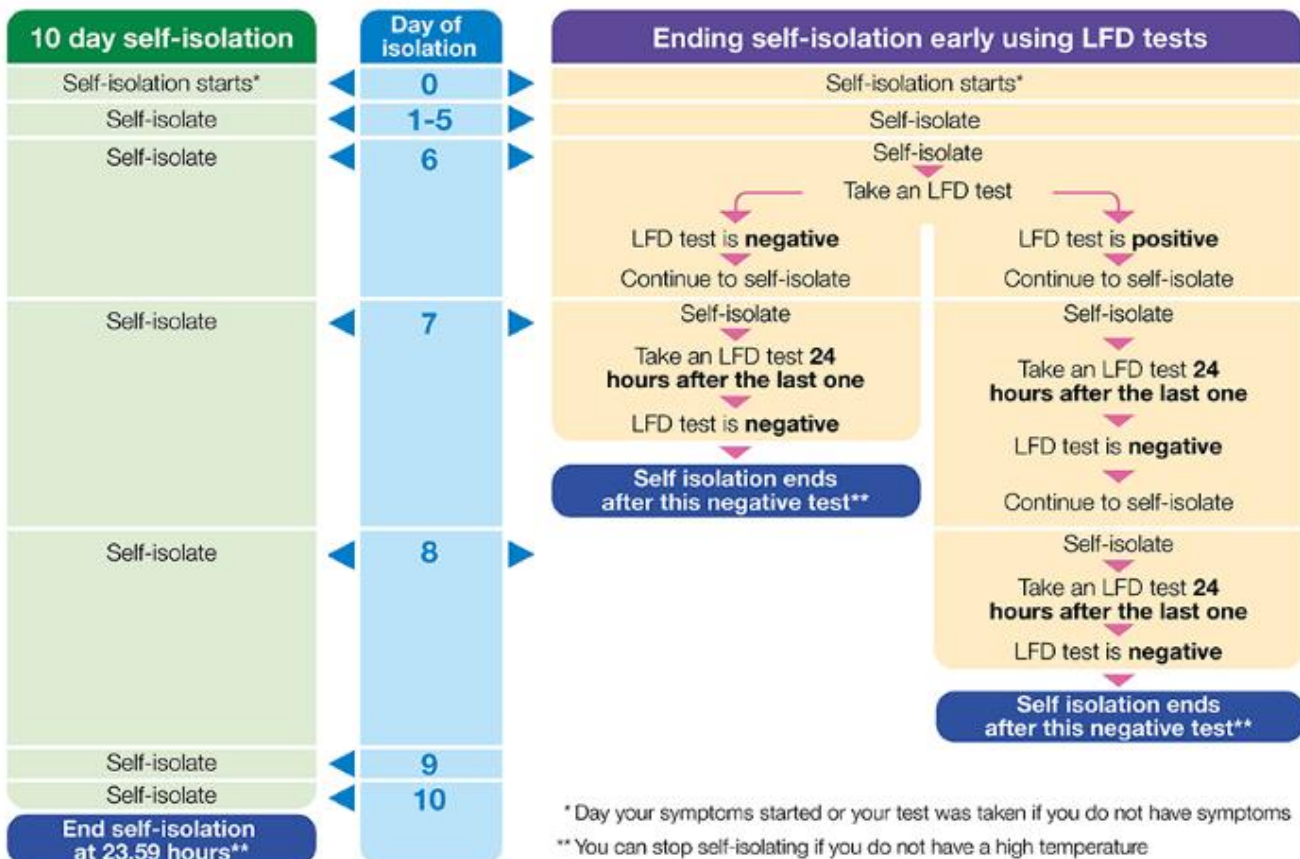
### Entering school:

If you do need to enter school via the main entrance, please wear a face covering unless medically exempt.

### Self-isolation:

Individuals who have tested positive for coronavirus are now able to end self-isolation after 7 days instead of 10 days if **they have negative LFD test results on days 6 and 7**. This applies to all people regardless of their age or vaccination status. The two LFD tests need to be taken 24 hours apart and the first test should not be taken before the sixth day. Pupils should only end their self-isolation period before 10 days if both LFD tests are negative and they do not have a high temperature. If the conditions for ending self-isolation early are met, pupils may return to school from day 8. Anyone who is unable to take lateral flow tests will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation.

The diagram below is quite useful.



**Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19:**

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. If a pupil lives in a household where there is a positive case of COVID-19, parents should arrange for a PCR test as soon as possible. If the PCR test is negative and your child is well, they can return to school immediately. As a close contact of someone with COVID-19, they should take an LFD test every day for seven days.

The government guidance can be found by clicking on the link below:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)

**Remote Learning:**

Face to face teaching and keeping schools open, remains a priority for this term. However, the school has a robust Remote Learning Policy in place should any school closures be implemented.

If individual pupils are off, but their class is in school, blended learning will take place. This is where, if the pupil is well enough, work will be available for them via Seesaw. Since the teacher is still teaching the rest of the class, this will not necessarily include online or virtual teaching.

**And finally...**

Looking at the data over the Christmas period, this term will probably continue to remain challenging both for our families and the school. As always, I will keep you updated and communicate any amendments to the operation of the school to you. I know you will continue to be vigilant.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Clayton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Ashley Clayton (Headteacher)**