



15th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

New Approach to Daily Testing of Close Contacts (as an alternative to self-isolation)

As I am sure most of you will be aware, as of yesterday, the Department for Education has published a new set of arrangements for those people who have come into close contact with a confirmed case. This letter details the new procedures for close contacts.

Where there is a possible case of coronavirus in the setting:

If a child or member of staff develops symptoms of COVID-19, the individual concerned will be sent home. They will be asked to arrange a PCR test and to share the results with us.

Where there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in the setting:

If a child or member of staff tests positive for COVID-19, they will be asked not to attend the school for at least 10 full days from the day after their symptoms appeared or, if asymptomatic, the date that the PCR test was taken.

Community contact tracing will be completed by NHS Test and Trace and in school contact tracing will be completed by the school liaising with the Local Authority.

If your child is identified as a close contact of the confirmed case, they will be advised to take part in daily LFD testing for 7 full days since the last contact with the confirmed case. The date of last contact with a confirmed case is day zero. Please note, if your child has had a positive PCR test in the past 90 days, they will not need to take part in daily LFD testing.

In this situation, other members of your household will be able to continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms or test positive within the 7 day LFD testing period.

If your child returns a positive LFD test they need to isolate and book a PCR test immediately. This can be booked by visiting <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling NHS 119.

If the PCR test is positive the child will need to isolate for 10 days from onset of first symptoms or date of positive LFD test if asymptomatic.

If your child is well at the end of the 10 day isolation period after a positive PCR test, they will be able to return to school. Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell.

If your child's test is negative, they are advised to continue to complete the 7 day LFD testing process as a contact of a positive case, regardless of the negative test result.

We will write to you again in the new year if there are any changes to these new procedures.



Mrs. B. Harrison, Headteacher