

A summary of the key changes to the St Nicholas School Covid-19 Risk Assessment 6 January 2022

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1. We have reinstated our policy that all staff and pupils (who are not exempt) continue to wear a face covering in communal areas and on school vehicles, until further notice. Staff and pupils that are not exempt should wear a face covering in the classroom if this makes them feel better. We also strongly recommend that staff and pupils (where able) continue to do twice weekly lateral flow tests and report them via the NHS website.
2. All people who develop the three main COVID-19 symptoms should get a PCR test and observe a full 10 day isolation period. Those who still have a fever on day 10 must not return until they feel well again and their temperature falls below 37.8°.
3. If an asymptomatic person tests positive on an LF test they now need to register the positive LF test online, with test and trace. Asymptomatic people who test positive on LF no longer need to get a confirmatory PCR test. Fully vaccinated staff or students under 18.5 years who have tested positive on an LF test, but remain symptom free during their self-isolation may now take further LF test on days 6 & 7 and if both are negative they may return to school on day eight.
4. Unvaccinated staff should observe a full 10 day isolation period if they test positive on a lateral flow test or were in close contact with a case of COVID-19.
5. All visitors to the school including parents, drivers and escorts are expected to wear a face covering in communal areas (unless they are exempt) – the wearing of face masks for visitors is now our policy. Any visiting personnel attending the school from other organisations for a CPL opportunities will be expected to show evidence of a negative LF test from within 24 hours of the start of their course (on arrival and in the form of their text or email report).
6. The school is no longer operating in class or department bubbles unless a small outbreak of cases are developing.
7. Staff and students are strongly advised to take Lateral Flow tests for seven days if they come in contact with someone who has received a positive result on a PCR test – if they test negative on each day, they can then attend school each day. They should take a PCR test of their own if they develop any of the three main COVID-19 symptoms, themselves.
8. Staff need to be mindful about the national lack in available LF tests; this may affect the school in some way.