



Courtney Primary School

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish.



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Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID update

SYMPTOMATIC and positive COVID-19 result following a PCR

Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19

From **Monday 17 January**, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after **5 full days** if they test **negative** with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both **day 5 and day 6** and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be reported to NHS Test and Trace. If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10day period of self-isolation.

Asymptomatic testing

Updated isolation guidance

The DFE have informed us that there is a currently a temporary suspension of confirmatory PCR tests in education and childcare settings from **Tuesday 11th January** for asymptomatic testing.

The only time you would take a follow up PCR test after a positive LFD test if you:

- wish to claim the Test and Trace Support Payment
- have been advised to take a PCR test because you are in a clinically vulnerable group
- have been advised to do so as part of a research or surveillance programme
- have received a positive day 2 LFD after arriving into the UK

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 their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result.

We appreciate your continued support with this.

Kind regards,

Georgina Scott

Headteacher