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28th February 2022

Dear Parents

Changes to COVID guidance

I hope you have all had a good half term break, and enjoyed a rest from the normal routine. I wanted to update you today with changes in Department for Education (DfE) guidance regarding COVID-19.

For schools the two key changes are:

From 21 February the DfE are no longer advising regular asymptomatic testing in **most** education settings, and COVID-19 will be increasingly managed in line with other infectious diseases through public health guidance. This means that staff will no longer be required to test twice weekly.

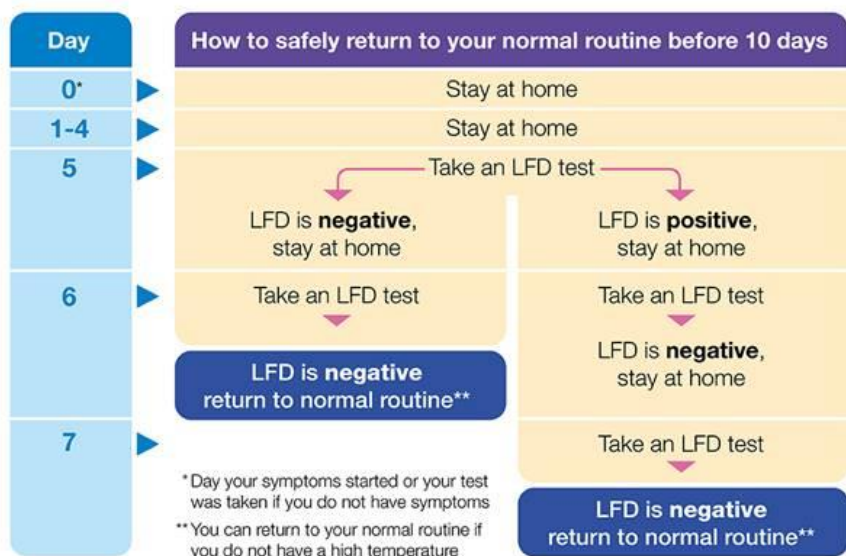
From 24 February the legal requirement to self-isolate has been removed, as has the advice to take daily tests if you are a close contact, all contact tracing has also ended.

Attendance at school

The guidance states that children with COVID-19 **should not** attend their education setting while they are infectious. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to school, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature.

If your day 5 LFD test result is positive, you can continue taking LFD tests until you receive 2 consecutive negative test results. The table below is helpful to illustrate this:

How to safely return to your normal routine before 10 days



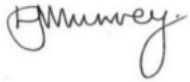
If your child tests positive for COVID-19 we will continue to ask you to record the two consecutive LFT results using this form: <https://sl.safesmart.co.uk/lft/record/221/oxfordst>

Close contacts

If there is a positive case in school we will no longer be identifying children who are close contacts and informing parents. We will continue to send the “warn and inform” letters stating which class the positive case is in.

Many thanks in advance for your ongoing support.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Murrey', written in a cursive style.

Mrs L Murrey
Headteacher