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Dear Parents

COVID- 19 Update

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

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 test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

Remote Learning

The DfE recognises that the high rates of COVID-19 may cause difficulties with the availability of staff. The shared priority is to keep education settings open and children and young people continuing face-to-face education. We have been advised that if workforce issues arise, we will use existing teaching, temporary and support staff more flexibly. As previously mentioned, Miss Thomas, Miss Claridge, Mrs Sutherland, Mrs Graves, Miss Goodridge, Mrs Willmot and I will all be here for the children and will continue to deliver our high quality teaching and support.

Our remote learning platform via Padlet will be still sent out weekly via Class Dojo and can be accessed from our website link too.

As always, I will keep you updated on information and any changes. The staff and I appreciate your support and understanding during this time.

Yours sincerely

Miss Olivia Quirke
Headteacher