



4th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

First of all, Happy New Year! We hope too that you and your families are safe and well and have had a lovely Christmas break. We are writing to update you on our response to the latest Covid-19 government guidance.

Return to school testing

The government guidance required school to carry out one lateral flow test when students returned to school. Today lateral flow tests were self-administered for any student that had permission in their planner or requested it as they are post 16.

It is now strongly recommended that where possible students carry on testing twice weekly at home, this can be supported by parents or self-administered. If you require more lateral flow tests, please pop a note in your child's diary.

It is important that the results are uploaded to the [NHS test and Trace](#) website. To help school to monitor at home testing we ask for a quick note in your child's diary to say "lateral flow tested today". An important change to guidance is that even if your child has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they should now take part in weekly lateral flow testing.

[Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Changes to self-isolation

The self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to seven days, (unless you cannot test for any reason).

Individuals should take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Two negative test results mean you are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. Tests must be taken 24 hours apart. 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 school from day 8.

Close contacts

For fully vaccinated adults, or young people aged between 5 and 18 years and six months, if identified by the NHS as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, they should take an LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

We recognise that the high rates of COVID-19 may cause difficulties with staffing over these coming weeks. Our priority is to keep everyone safe whilst keeping school open to continue face-to-face education. If staffing issues arise, we will continue to be creative in how we utilise our part-time teaching staff, and support staff.

Thank you for your continued support. If you would like to discuss anything further, please ring us at school or use the parentsupport@forestway.leics.sch.uk email. This email can also be used to contact us during weekends or holidays.

Yours faithfully

G Donley-Williams

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