

Daily testing for contacts of Covid announced

From today, Tuesday 14th December, “a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of Covid-19 is being introduced (including until the end of this term). All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with Covid-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating.”

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should:

- Take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#) and [to the school](#).
- If they test negative, they can continue to attend school.
- If they test positive, they should self-isolate and order a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.
- Outside of school, they should continue to follow the advice set out in the [Sunday 12 December press release](#).
- Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.
- This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.

Finally, the DfE confirmed it is important to **continue regular twice weekly, at-home testing** for all staff and all students of secondary age and above. Please ensure you have **collected test kits from your pastoral manager** if you will not have enough to support this testing process over the holiday period.

Many thanks with your continued support.

Take care,

Mrs Kate Kell
Head of School

Self-isolation and testing requirements w.e.f. Tuesday 14th December 2021

