

4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear parent / carer,

In addition to the letter sent to you yesterday, please see the below regarding additional updates/changes regarding close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases in school. These changes are intended to keep students and staff as safe as possible.

#### Contact with positive cases in school

The NHS remains responsible for Test and Trace in England. Schools do not currently have a role in contact tracing. However, to support students, staff and families, **from today the school will contact you if we are aware that your child has sustained close contact with a person who later tests positive for COVID-19.** This will be based on a 48 hour window of time. It is important to note that we will not share the personal details of any positive cases when we do this. **We will send you a standard message via dojo informing you** and, at the same time, we will share the government advice with you. This advice is that anyone who is a close contact of a positive case should take a LFD test every day for 7 days, whilst remaining in school.

The link to this advice can be found here - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

#### Self-isolation rule changes

The government has issued new advice for those individuals who have to self-isolate following a positive PCR test. We wanted to highlight this advice to you as it has the potential to minimise disruption to any COVID-19 absences. The 10 day self-isolation period for students who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances. Students may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those students 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. If both these test results are negative, and the students does not have a high temperature, they may end their self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to their education setting from day 8. Those students who are unable to test will need to complete their full 10 day self-isolation.

The government announcement on this change can be found at the following link - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Thank you again for all of your support at this time.

Many thanks,



Mr Holmes

Headteacher