

Flanderwell Primary School

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"Every child, every minute, every hope."

Sunday 2nd January 2022

Dear families,

HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all. We hope you've had a lovely two weeks and hope that 2022 brings you good health and happiness.

Just a few things before our return to school...

COVID UPDATES:

As you will know, the guidance for self-isolation changed on 22nd December.

The full guidance can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection?utm_source=2%20January%202022%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

Here are the key changes:

LATEST GOVERNMENT INFORMATION ON THE CHANGES TO THE SELF-ISOLATION PERIOD FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

'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 a person 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 temperature is normal, a person may end their self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to normal activity (including a return to an education setting from day 8).

DAILY TESTING FOR CLOSE CONTACTS:

'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](#)**'.

Return to school: Tuesday 4th January.

We have been unfortunate to have had several of our staff fall ill over the Christmas period and we are aware that some of our families have been affected by Covid during the last two weeks, too. In order to keep everyone as safe and well as possible, it continues to be important for us to pull together as a community and support each other as best we can. Our staff will continue to take LFTs at least twice weekly and we would strongly advise the same for families. We have very much appreciated your support for this already and do believe this has limited the transmission in school. I am aware that there has been a shortage in LFTs, however, but this will hopefully change.

Our school gates will open at the usual time of 8.45a.m. and will close at 8.55a.m. To avoid any over-crowding at the gates as children arrive, we ask that parents leave the area once children have entered school.

We are happy for you to collect your children from the classrooms **but do ask that you wear a face covering when doing so.** This is a temporary request to ensure we go forward with safe measures, especially as Covid cases have been on the rise. For clear identification purposes, we ask that you pull down the mask when it is your turn to collect your child from the classroom door.

We will endeavour to keep you updated with any further developments as they arise.

Many, many thanks for your continued support. We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Best wishes,

Mrs J Armitage
Headteacher