

Friday 15th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may be aware that there have been numerous reports in the local and national media regarding LFD (Lateral Flow Device) and PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction). We have received the following information from the UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency).

"UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) have been made aware of some areas reporting positive LFD test results with subsequent negative PCR tests and are currently looking into the cause. Whilst the UKHSA investigation is under-way, we advise that if a pupil or staff member has been in close contact with a positive case (such as a household member) or has displayed Covid-19 symptoms and has tested positive on an LFD (but subsequently tested negative on a PCR), they are treated as potentially infectious. We recommend they isolate and remain out of the setting, for 10 days."

This is a change in the guidance we have been following. This guidance must now be followed whilst the UKHSA investigate possible causes.

Please can we ask that you continue to book PCR tests after a positive LFD result. PCR tests can be booked online through the **NHS Test and Trace website** or by calling 119.

Where your child/children or household member has a negative PCR test result after a positive LFD they **must** now self-isolate if they have displayed COVID-19 symptoms **OR** have been in close contact with a positive case.

Self-isolation periods include the day your symptoms started or the day you took the test if you did not have symptoms and then the next full 10 days.

For example if you become symptomatic (or tested positive if no symptoms) on the 15th October 2021 then your last of full isolation will be the 25th October 2021.

Please continue to contact the school to report absences following a positive LFD. I would like to extend this to all absences not just positive LFDs

In addition, you can help protect yourself and others by following the guidance on **how to stay safe and help prevent the spread.**

Yours sincerely,



sarah bunce

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