



7th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your support at the start of term in sending your children into school with face coverings and also for participating in the LFD testing process. We had a 93% uptake in testing and found 7 asymptomatic students who were positive and are now isolating. Please continue to test at home twice a week and report your results on <https://app.schoolscreeener.com/Portal/#/login> and <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

As government guidance has changed again, I thought you might find their response to FAQs useful:

What is the position of individuals without symptoms returning after 10 days if their LFD tests are still positive?

- They may return to school if they remain well and asymptomatic. This is because they are unlikely to be infectious after the 10th day of their isolation period.
- If they become unwell or have symptoms, they should stay off school and seek medical advice.

Can you clarify when students can return after negative LFD tests?

- Students can take an LFD test from the 6th day after their symptoms started (or the day the test was taken if asymptomatic). A second LFD test should be taken 24 hours later on day 7. If both these test results are negative, and they do not have a high temperature, they may end self-isolation and return to school.

Has there been a change to previous advice about not testing individuals who have had covid in the past 90 days? If so, why?

- Yes, this guidance has changed. Even if someone has tested positive for covid in the last 90 days, they are strongly encouraged to take an LFD test once they have completed their isolation period.
- This change is because medical evidence has shown that people can be infected with Omicron even if they have previously been infected with COVID-19

If an individual who had Covid within the last 90 days tests positive on an LFD should they isolate and do a PCR?

- It was announced yesterday that PCR tests following a positive LFD test are to be suspended from 11 January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD result will be required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

On a lighter note, we are looking forward to Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday, 27th January, which follows the students Sixth Form taster day on 25th January. I am anticipating the parents' evening is likely to be virtual again.

Please be aware that Friday, 28th January is a Trust Inset Day so students are not be in school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Butler
Principal

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