



Willerby Carr Lane Primary School

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17th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

COVID-19 Update and Changes to Government Guidance

There are encouraging signs that COVID-19 cases appear to be starting to fall across the country. But it still remains the case that the NHS is under significant pressure, with over 16,000 COVID-19 patients in hospital in England alone. We also have higher cases per 100,000 in the Hull and East Riding region than the England average.

Within school, we are currently seeing an increased number of cases. To reduce the spread of COVID-19 in school we have implemented additional control measures this week. These include:

- a temporary cancellation of whole school assemblies
- having lunch in classrooms for some year groups
- limiting contact between year groups

We will continue with our enhanced cleaning, hygiene and ventilation measures.

Changes to government guidance

Over the past week, there have been changes to Government guidance for testing and isolation periods. The full guidance is available online: [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#).

Key changes include:

- **If an LFD test is positive, individuals should self-isolate for up to 10 days**.**
The isolation period includes the day symptoms started (or the day a test was taken if they do not have symptoms), and the next 10 full days.
- You should report your result at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result, self-isolate immediately, and NHS Test and Trace will be in touch.
- **If an individual tests positive on an LFD and has no symptoms they no longer need to get a follow-up PCR test** (unless they meet the criteria set out in section 4.2 of the Government guidance.
- **If individuals develop symptoms whilst taking part in the 7-day close-contact LFD testing, they should still immediately self-isolate** and book a PCR test**

as soon as possible. The three main symptoms of COVID-19 are high temperature, continuous cough and loss of sense of smell or taste.

**Under-fives are exempt from self-isolation as a contact and do not need to take part in daily LFD tests, however it is at the parents' discretion and if the pupil can tolerate the test they can also daily test.*

*** You may be able to end your self-isolation period before the end of the 10 full days. You can take an LFD test from 5 days after the day your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you did not have symptoms), and another LFD test on the following day (with tests 24 hours apart). If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result.*

Individuals who are legally required to self-isolate, (e.g. unvaccinated adults) must self-isolate for the full 10-day period.

Anyone identified as a contact who has a negative rapid lateral flow result is still strongly advised to limit close contact with other people outside their household, especially in crowded or enclosed spaces and with anyone who is more vulnerable.

You can order or book a free PCR test by visiting www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or calling 119. If you have any difficulty or issue in obtaining a test, please inform the school office.

To confirm, once your child has taken a PCR test:

- If the PCR test comes back as negative, they can attend school as usual but still need to be vigilant and continue regular LFD testing if no symptoms emerge. If any symptoms develop, they should isolate and seek another PCR test.
- If the PCR test is positive – they will need to self-isolate for up to 10 days**.

We are doing everything we can to keep everyone safe in school, so we ask you to do the same when you are out and about. It is strongly advised that you and your families take care if visiting vulnerable individuals or attending large events or gatherings.

As always, thank you for your continued support as we navigate our way through the pandemic.



Mr Sean Smith
Headteacher