



# Guiden Sutton Church of England Primary School

*Love and Justice for All*

---

11 January 2021

Dear Parent,

I am writing to inform you of the most recent guidance that has come into effect from 11th January 2022.

Where we cannot insist on requesting either positive or negative results, the mutual trust of receiving confirmation of either LFD or PCR results help us to keep track of dates and pupil absences which supports teachers when planning and sending work home for each child so we would be grateful if you would continue to inform us of any results.

Testing for students with symptoms can be arranged by calling 119 or via the NHS website: [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

## **Lateral Flow (LFD) Testing for Limited Period**

In order to identify any new cases as soon as possible and to minimise the risk of onward infection, it is recommended that, in addition to a PCR test if symptomatic, your child also takes at least two LFD tests at regular intervals during the next seven-day period prior to attending school.

Provided that their test results (PCR, if symptomatic and LFD) are negative, they can continue to attend school as usual, as long as they have no symptoms.

If any of their test results are positive, however, then these are the steps that should be followed:

- Self-isolate for 10 full days from the date of the test if any of their test results are positive or 7 days if tested LFD negative on day 6 and 7.
- If an asymptomatic case develops symptoms within their isolation period, they must restart their isolation from the onset of symptoms and are recommended to have a PCR test.

**Please note: LFD tests are only suitable for children aged five and above.**

## **Re-testing within a 90 Day Period**

In light of the Omicron variant, the guidance relating to re-testing within a 90-day period has changed, and pupils are now encouraged to take part in regular asymptomatic testing with LFD tests even if they have previously tested positive in the last 90 days



# Guiden Sutton Church of England Primary School

*Love and Justice for All*

---

If an individual is re-tested within 90 days of a previous positive PCR test, and the result of the test is positive, the individual must self-isolate again, and their household contacts must self-isolate, unless they are double-vaccinated or are under 18 years and six months. The guidance can be found at this link: Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

## **Changes to self-isolation period**

For people living in England, guidance on self-isolation has recently changed allowing, in some circumstances, the period of self-isolation to be reduced to 7 days. Individuals can take Lateral Flow tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period, taken 24 hours apart, and if both are negative that person may end their self-isolation on day 7, and will be able to return to school.

## **Confirmatory PCR test changes**

From 11 (to 26 January 2022 initially), in England, individuals who test positive for COVID-19 on a Lateral Flow test will be required to self-isolate immediately and will no longer require a confirmatory PCR test. PCR tests will still be required for people who develop one of the three main symptoms, and they should self-isolate while awaiting results.

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are the recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

This is only a temporary measure and you will be informed if the guidance changes, and confirmatory PCR tests are again recommended.

Your child's class teacher will contact you and, depending on how your child/children is feeling, relevant work will be arranged. Please continue to stay in contact if your child is unwell so that we can offer you support as appropriate.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact school.

Thank you as always for your continuous support and patience.

Theresa Rainford