



ADDMORE FEDERATION
'Together we add more'

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14th December 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

This morning the DfE announced that from **Tuesday 14 December**, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 is being introduced (including until the end of this term). The guidance now states that all adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – **whether Omicron or not** – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days **instead of self-isolating**. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19, protect education settings by reducing transmission and will also help keep pupils in **face-to-face education**.

If notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils, and students should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the Online Reporting System and to their setting. If you test negative, you can continue to attend your education setting. Outside of the education setting, you should continue to follow the advice set out in the Sunday 12 December press release. This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.

If you test positive, you should self-isolate and order a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, you must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, you no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.

Children under five years old do not need to take part in daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 and do not need to isolate.

Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.

For students with SEND who struggle to or are unable to self-swab daily for 7 days, settings should work with students and their families to agree an appropriate testing route, such as assisted swabbing. Information on further support measures will be provided.

All staff will continue with regular twice weekly, at-home testing.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs S. Henney

