



# WIMBLEDON CHASE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Wednesday 26 January 2022

Dear Parents,

You will be aware that the government has announced that England will fully return to Plan A on Thursday 27 January and that there has also been a change in the self-isolation rules.

This letter is to update you on how this affects the procedures at school for self-isolation and the safety measures that are in place.

Although reports that cases are dropping nationally is of course good news, at school we are experiencing a significant increase in positive cases across all year groups and this week have put Years 3, 5 and 6 into 'bubbles' to try and mitigate against the spread of the virus.

With this in mind, many of our safety measures at school will remain in place even after this Thursday, including staff wearing masks in communal areas, virtual assemblies, children sitting in class groups to eat at lunchtime as well as zoned areas in the playground for break times.

The following information shows new and updated procedures as well as guidance that remains the same.

## GUIDANCE

### Isolation guidance for Positive Cases - NEW

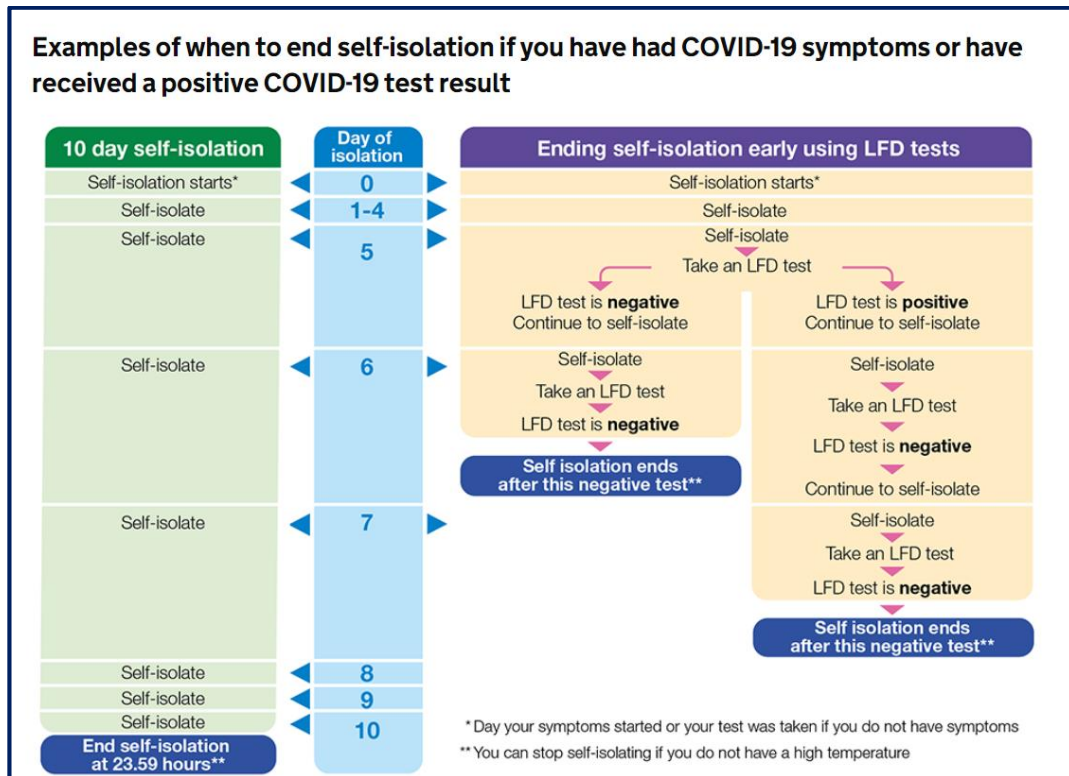
The self-isolation advice for people with Coronavirus (COVID-19) has changed.

- It is now possible to end self-isolation **after 5 full days if you have 2 negative LFD tests taken on consecutive days.**
- **The first day of symptoms or a positive LFD is counted as day '0'.**
- For example if on a Friday you have symptoms OR a positive LFD test, Friday would be day 0, day 5 would be Wednesday.
- The first LFD test should not be taken before the fifth day.
- The tests must be taken a full 24 hours apart. For example, if a test was taken in the evening of day 5 it would have to be taken in the evening of day 6. If both are negative and there is no high temperature, then your child can return to school on day 7.
- If however it was taken on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6 then the child can return to school on day 6 providing both were negative results with no high temperature.

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- The self-isolation period remains 10 full days for those who continue to have a positive LFD test.
- This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental discretion. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.



### Contacts of a Positive Case - NO CHANGE

All children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19, are strongly advised to take an LFD test every day for 7 days (rather than take a PCR test) and continue to attend their school as normal, unless they have symptoms or have received a positive test result.

### If your child has symptoms- NO CHANGE

If your child has COVID-19 symptoms, please keep them at home and take a PCR test. If the test is negative and they are well enough they may return to school.

### If your child tests positive for COVID-19 on an LFD- NO CHANGE

If your child tests positive on an LFD test then the guidance means that your child should isolate at home, but as the from 11<sup>th</sup> January **you no longer need to confirm this with a PCR test.**

### Reporting a positive result

Please inform us if your child tests positive for COVID-19 (on either test) and keep them at home. Please phone the school office or email [parentsupportadvisor@wimbledonchase.merton.sch.uk](mailto:parentsupportadvisor@wimbledonchase.merton.sch.uk) to inform us.

**We will then email you a Google form to complete with your details.**

### Remote Learning- NO CHANGE

For children who have to self-isolate, teachers are providing learning in our Virtual School. Children may need to complete some work (as in lockdown) through the Google Classroom.

We have reissued passwords for Google Classroom to the children (which can be found in their home/school communication book) and teachers will be reminding classes how to access Google Classroom in class computing lessons. Please note that this work only needs to be accessed if the child is well enough.

### Staffing

Due to a national shortage of available supply staff, we continue to be under considerable pressure with covering staff who are ill. Staff in school are being used flexibly to ensure our school remains open for all children.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Best wishes



Mr. K. Ellis  
**Headteacher**

### For further information and guidance:

**How to order a PCR test if you or your child has COVID-19 symptoms:** <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

**How to order a rapid COVID-19 test for asymptomatic testing:** <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk>

**How to report your rapid COVID-19 test results:** <https://www.gov.uk/report-COVID19-result> or call 119 (free from mobile or landline)

**Please keep children at home if they are at all unwell, even if they are not displaying typical COVID-19 symptoms.**