

13th December, 2021



Dear Parent/Carer

Parental update 79c

In the last hour, the Department for Education have updated their guidance about self-isolation for those that have been in contact with people infected with the Omicron Coronavirus variant.

The guidance states that such contacts do **not** now need to self-isolate **provided** they undertake daily lateral flow tests (and, obviously, get a negative result). The results of these lateral flow tests should be reported; the relevant DfE e-mail states that parents should “*report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#) and to their setting [ie their school]. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. [...] If they test positive, they should self-isolate and [order a PCR test](#) to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they 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.*”

Local Public Health officials have confirmed to me that this advice applies to those who are currently self-isolating.

I am therefore writing to advise you that provided:

- (a) your son is not showing any of the Coronavirus symptoms (a temperature, a continuous cough, or a change to – or loss of – taste or smell), **and**
 - (b) your son takes a lateral flow test (and gets a negative result) every day for 7 days since the last contact (*ie*, for your son, up to and including Friday 17th December),
- he may return to school tomorrow at the usual time tomorrow.

Please accept my apologies for any anxiety or inconvenience the rapidly-developing situation may have caused you over the last 24 hours.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Brierley
Principal.