

Beeston Primary School

Town Street, Leeds, LS11 8PN "Engage, Enjoy, Enrich, Excel"



6th January 2022

Covid-19 Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all. We hope that you have all managed some festive fun with your families. As we return to school and start the new term, we write to share with you the latest Covid update from the DfE and remind you of our school protocols around remote learning, should your child need to isolate.

Covid-19 Symptoms:

Currently anyone should isolate and take a PCR test as soon as possible should they display any of the main symptoms of Covid-19: A high temperature of 37.8 degrees or above; a new and persistent cough and/or loss of smell or taste. In addition to this the British Medical Journal has published a list of typical symptoms associated with the Omicron variant. These are: a runny nose, sore throat, sneezing, headache and fatigue. Whilst any or all of the above could well just be a common cold, it would be wise to play on the safe side, test more regularly and book a PCR test should a Lateral Flow Test be positive (https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test). From 11th January under the new guidance released yesterday, anyone in England who receives a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result should report their result on gov.uk and must self-isolate immediately, but will not need to take a follow-up PCR test. This is a temporary measure while COVID-19 rates remain high across the UK. Whilst levels of COVID-19 are high, the vast majority of people with positive LFD results can be confident that they have COVID-19. After reporting a positive LFD test result, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace so that their contacts can be traced.

Lateral flow tests are taken by people who do not have COVID-19 symptoms. **Anyone who develops 1 of the 3 main COVID-19 symptoms should stay at home and self-isolate and take a PCR test.** They must self-isolate if they get a positive test result, even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test – these rules have not changed.

In summary, if you take a Lateral Flow with no symptoms and it is positive then you must isolate with no need for a PCR test to confirm. If you have any of the symptoms of Covid-19 and you test negative on a lateral flow then you should isolate and take a follow-up PCR test to confirm.

Rules on Self-isolation:

Self-isolation advice for people with coronavirus has changed. It is now possible to end self-isolation after 7 days.

Individuals may now take LF tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 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 and children may return to school.

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Children under **5 do not need** to take a PCR or a LFT, even if they have COVID-19 symptoms. They can take a test if a doctor advises it, or if a parent believes a test is absolutely necessary and in the best interests of a child.

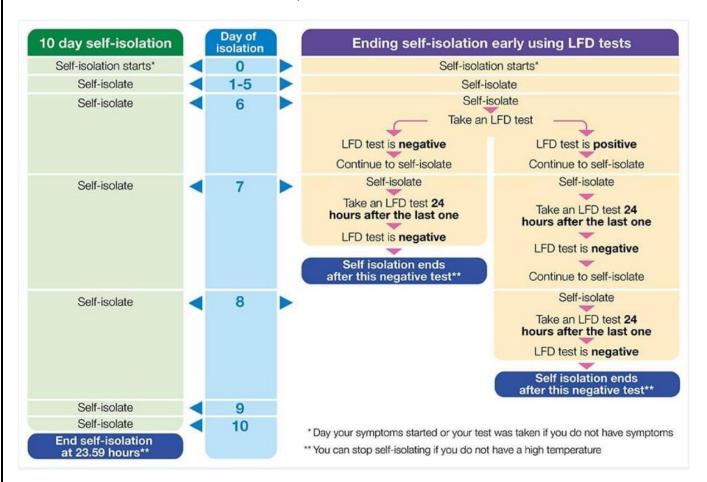
Lateral Flow Tests must be registered on the NHS website (https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result) and the confirmation email or text message alongside a photograph of the test must then be sent to school by emailing positivecovid@beestonprimary.org.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Children who have come into contact with someone with coronavirus, whilst not needing to isolate, to attend school should take a daily LFT for 7 days and self-isolate if positive. For full details please refer to the following website:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection

The flow-chart below is a useful reference point.



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If one or both parents are isolating and a child tests negative on a Lateral Flow, it is the parents' responsibility to try to get the child to school. Where possible, please make use of family, friends and trusted neighbours to help with transport. If you have any problems, then please let school know.

If your child does need to isolate and is well enough to access learning from home, then please refer to the section on our school website.

https://www.beestonprimaryschool.co.uk/home-learning/

Here you will find a document for each year group. Teachers have planned and prepared links to a series of lessons matching our school curriculum for this half term which can be accessed at any point.

If your child is isolating you should expect the following:

- A well-being phone call from the class teacher at the start of isolation to check that you have everything you need to access learning at home. We can loan DFE funded school laptops to pupils should they be required.
- Feedback and support from a member of staff at the end of each day via our school year group email addresses; Tapestry or Microsoft Teams. Please be mindful that during the day teachers will be teaching those pupils in school and so feedback will not be immediate.

Please be sure to communicate with the class teacher your preferred method of submitting work. Work can also be brought into school to share with the teacher at the end of isolation. Year group email address follow the following pattern:

e.g. Year1@beestonprimary.org

• A further well-being and safe-guarding phone call from a school staff member if there is no engagement in home learning by Day 3.

It really is so lovely to see all the children back in school and we want to do everything we can to keep school open and enable pupils to learn face to face with their teacher and peers. Our aim is to keep our whole school community as safe as possible whilst keeping pupils in school and learning.

As always, we really appreciate your help and support during these challenging times.

If you have any questions or problems, then please do not hesitate to contact school via the main school office.

Best wishes,

The Senior Leadership Team

Mr N. Edensor Mrs B. Tidey Mr S Nicholson Headteacher Senior Deputy Headteacher Deputy Headteacher

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