

COVID-19 SUMMARY

MITIGATION MEASURES



19 January 2022

The latest government guidance can be found here:
[DfE 'Schools COVID-19 operational guidance' \(19 January 2022\)](#)

The key change is as follows, with further detail provided below:

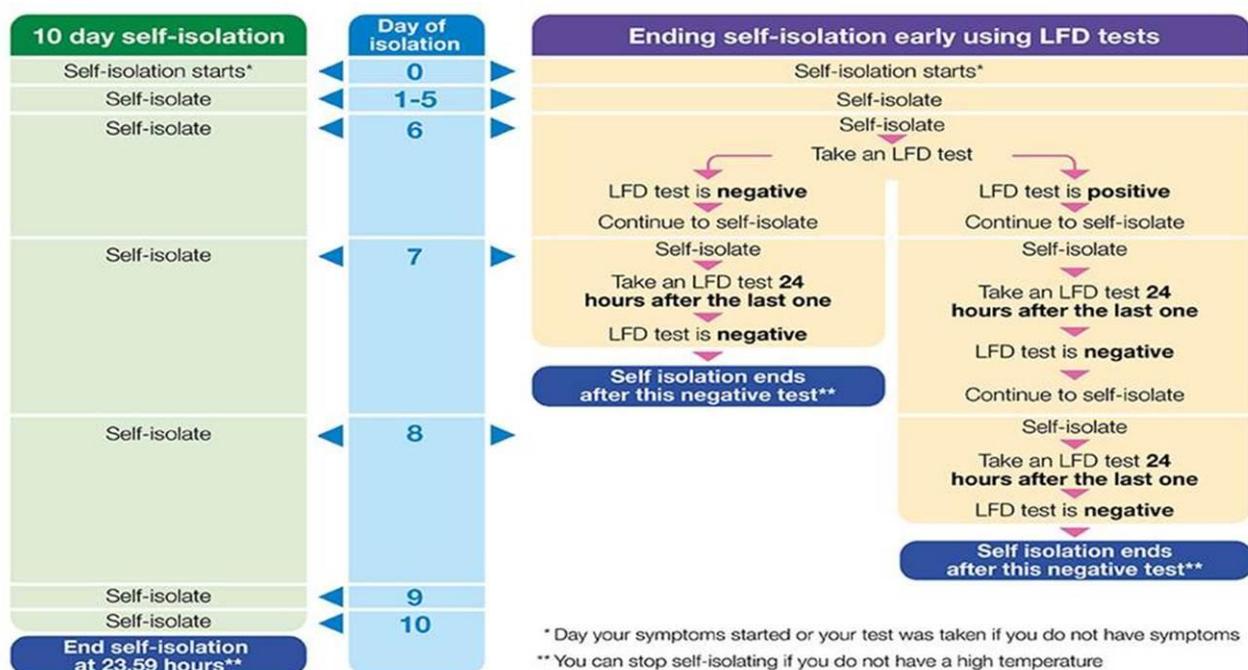
- 1. All pupils from Year 7 upwards are no longer required to wear face coverings in lessons from Thursday 20 January, although they must wear them in communal areas.**

When contacting the School about any matter relating to COVID-19, please email Nurse@ola.org.uk and ZDoy@ola.org.uk.

Summary of government guidance with **change since 7 January** in bold

1. Wearing of face coverings (these are temporary measures):
 - **All pupils from Year 7 upwards are no longer required to wear face coverings in lessons from Thursday 20 January, although they must wear them in communal areas unless they are exempt.**
 - All pupils from Year 7 upwards and staff must wear face coverings in communal areas unless they are exempt.
 - All pupils must wear face coverings unless they are exempt when travelling on school buses.
 - All visitors to the school are required to wear face masks or visors, and to undertake a lateral flow test before their visit.
2. Self-isolation (from 11 January):
 - PCR tests are no longer required to confirm a positive lateral flow test. If your child has a positive lateral flow test and/or they develop symptoms, they should self-isolate and undertake lateral flow tests as per Diagram 1.
 - A PCR test is only required where a person has symptoms, but their lateral flow test is negative. If the PCR test is positive, day 0 is the day their symptoms first developed.
 - Please be aware that pupils should only return to school on or earlier than day 10 if they do not have a high temperature.

Diagram 1



3. Record of pupils who are either self-isolating or a close contact:

- Self-isolation:
 - Positive lateral flow test and/or develops symptoms:
 - If your child tests positive, or has symptoms, please inform the School immediately, stating the day on which the test was taken and/or they developed symptoms (this will be recorded as day 0).
 - We will assume that pupils will return to school after day 10 unless we are informed of an earlier return date. For example, please inform us on day 7 if your child is returning on day 8 because they have had negative lateral flow tests on days 6 and 7 (see Diagram 1).
 - Self-isolating whilst awaiting the result of a PCR test:
 - If your child tests negative on a lateral flow, but has developed symptoms, please inform the School immediately, stating the day on which they developed symptoms (this will be recorded as day 0). If the PCR test is positive, we will confirm in our record that your child will return to school after day 10 unless we are notified of an earlier return date (see Diagram 1).
- Pupil identified as a close contact:
 - If your child is identified as a close contact by the School, we will contact you immediately, and your child will need to undertake daily lateral flow tests for 7 days.
 - If your child is identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace, please inform the School as soon as possible so that we can make a record of the 7 days on which your child will be undertaking lateral flow tests.

Pupils can continue to attend school so long as their lateral flow tests are negative. If their lateral flow test is positive, they should self-isolate and undertake lateral flow tests as per Diagram 1.

4. Tracing close contacts: close contacts in schools are identified by NHS Test and Trace, and we have implemented the following system to support NHS Test and Trace:
 - Online seating plans for all lessons and any clubs or activities so that we can identify where pupils could be a close contact.
 - For lunch, pupils sit in a designated year group area. There are two dining rooms which are well ventilated.
 - Whole school assemblies and other large gatherings are suspended.
 - See action in bold in 'Testing' section for a situation where your child is identified as a close contact.

5. Control measures:
 - School hygiene:
 - Regular cleaning of hands with either hand sanitiser or soap and water.
 - Follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
 - Wiping down of surfaces after lessons and in other areas eg dining room.
 - Maintenance of appropriate cleaning regimes.
 - Ventilation:
 - Classrooms and communal areas are ventilated properly.

6. Testing:
 - Pupils were tested on site at School on Tuesday and yesterday. If your child has not been tested on site, please ensure that they take a lateral flow test before returning to school.
 - We recommend that all pupils and members of your household undertake lateral flow tests regularly eg Wednesday and Sunday. Lateral flow test kits can be collected by your son/daughter from Reception.