

20 January 2022

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a good weekend and that all families continue to be safe and well. As I mentioned in my letter at the start of term, we would keep you updated with any changes to the government guidance affecting schools.

As you may have seen, the self-isolation period for individuals with COVID-19 has been reduced to 5 days from today (17 January) following 2 negative lateral flow tests taken on day 5 and day 6.

The following should help clarify the new self-isolation and testing arrangements.

DAY	GUIDANCE
0	Symptoms first began or received a positive LFT or PCR test (whichever is earliest)
1	Self-isolate
2	Self-isolate
3	Self-isolate
4	Self-isolate
5	Self-isolate – Begin lateral flow testing
6	Self-isolation can end following 2 negative lateral flow tests taken at least a day apart.
7	
8	
9	
10	Self-isolation ends after day 10 – no testing required beyond day 10.

A reminder that positive lateral flow tests do not need to be confirmed by a PCR test. If your child tests positive on a lateral flow test, they should self-isolate and you should follow guidance above, testing again on day 5 and day 6. Your child can return to school following 2 negative lateral flow tests taken at least a day apart.

Lateral flow tests are for asymptomatic testing only. Anyone with coronavirus symptoms should self-isolate and have a PCR test. If the PCR result is negative your child can return to school. If the result is positive, please follow the self-isolation guidance above.

Children aged under 18 years and 6 months are not required to self-isolate if someone in the same household has COVID-19. They are however advised to take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days and would need to self-isolate if any of those test results is positive.

The government is due to announce further changes to the guidance on 26 January and we will again advise you on how these changes will affect our schools. In the meantime, if you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school or email the Trust on info@pmat.academy.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Daly
Chief Executive Officer

Our Partner Schools