



Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Update on COVID testing and self-isolation

Thank you for your continued patience, understanding and support as we manage ongoing as well as changing covid protection measures. Moreover, thank you for your continued communication with the school to manage positive covid cases and clarify any areas of uncertainty. As there have been some recent changes to the covid regulations I felt it worthwhile to provide a summary of the current situation as below.

Participation in testing (if you have tested positive for Covid-19 within last 90 days)

In a change to previous guidelines, even if someone has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are strongly encouraged to take part in lateral flow device (LFD) testing at home twice weekly. This is because it is known that people can be infected with Omicron even when they have previously been infected with COVID-19.

Confirmatory PCR tests

Confirmatory PCR tests are temporarily suspended for those who test positive via LFD. However, they are required to self-isolate immediately and follow isolation guidance. If your child tests positive on a lateral flow device, please register this with NHS Test and Trace follow their self-isolation guidance and let the school know as per instructions below.

Regardless of LFD results, if your child has symptoms they should take a PCR test.

Ending self-isolation after 5 full days from 17th January

Students should take an LFD test from 5 days after the day their symptoms started, or the day the test was taken if they do not have symptoms. The day of the test or symptoms started is always counted as day zero.

If they are negative on day 5 students should repeat testing 24 hours later. If they test negative on the morning of day 6, and **have no temperature**, they are able to end self-isolation, and return to school that day.

They can return at any time between day 6 and day 10 provided they have received 2 consecutive negative results 24 hours apart.

Returning to school and ending self-isolation after 10 days

Even if their lateral flow test result is still positive, students may return to school after 10 days because they are unlikely to be infectious after the 10th day of their isolation period.

The only **exception to this is if your child still has a high temperature** when they should remain isolated and off school until it has returned to normal.

Close Contacts

Any student who has been identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 should take an LFD test every day for 7 days. Track and Trace will inform you if your child is a close contact, and you should log each of their daily tests on the NHS website. **Your child should still attend school** (if they do not test positive or develop symptoms.)

Reporting results to School

Headteacher: Mr P Foster BA (Hons) MA NPQH
Address: Tithepit Shaw Lane, Warlingham, Surrey, CR6 9YB
Telephone: 01883 624067 Email: info@warlinghamschool.co.uk
Website: www.warlinghamschool.co.uk

Tandridge Learning Trust

A School within the Tandridge Learning Trust

All LFD results should be logged on the NHS website. If the result is **positive**, the result should be forwarded to attendance@warlinghamlt.co.uk.

Home test kits are supplied to your child by their Tutor or can be collected from student services.

Thank you for your continued support, we will update following the guidance review on the 26 January.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Foster', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr P Foster

Headteacher