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Scarborough Road, Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 3JS

Tel: 01943 462349

Headteacher: Ms H.R. Carpenter • email: info@westgateprimary.co.uk

Tuesday 14th December 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

DAILY TESTING FOR CONTACTS OF COVID-19

Yesterday afternoon I received the following guidance which I feel is important to share with you all:

From today, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 is being introduced (including until the end of this term). All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff and pupils should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#). You are also required by the DfE to notify the school office. On the first day you should call the office to notify the school that your child is a close contact and is commencing daily testing. For the next 7 days thereafter you will be required to complete a daily form each morning no later than 08:50 ([click here](#)) and if your child tests negative, they can continue to attend their education setting.

Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow the advice set out in the [Sunday 12 December press release](#). This approach should also be adopted over the Christmas holiday and on return in January.

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.


Children under five years old do not need to take part in daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 and do not need to isolate.

Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.

For children with SEND who struggle to or are unable to self-swab daily for 7 days, we will work with children and their families to agree an appropriate testing route, such as assisted swabbing. Information on further support measures will be provided from the DfE.

In the meantime, all of our staff are continuing to take routine LFD tests twice weekly and will continue to do so over the Christmas holidays.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. Our most up-to-date COVID-19 information is available to view on the school website.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Carpenter', written in a cursive style.

Helen Carpenter
Head teacher