

# Whitehill Junior School

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Dear Parents and Carers

Following on from my update earlier today, I thought it beneficial to [confirm the recent government announcement](#) which comes into force tomorrow in relation to a-symptomatic testing. In other words, should you take a test without any of the recognised symptoms and receive a positive result, then this may now apply to you.

If You Test Positive from 11<sup>th</sup> January:

- Self-isolate immediately
- You do not need to take a confirmatory PCR test
- If you develop one of the three main Covid symptoms, stay at home, self-isolate and take a PCR test.

After [reporting a positive lateral flow test result](#), you will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace so that your contacts can be traced. As a reminder, schools are not expected to take on the role of 'test and trace' and there are obviously rules around what information we can share with families when we have been alerted by parents. In line with guidance from the Local Authority, I will alert you to a potential outbreak but outside of this, it is about remaining vigilant.

In line with the reduced self-isolation approach announced over the Christmas break, anyone who tests positive will be able to leave isolation seven days after the date of their initial positive test if they receive two negative LFT results, 24 hours apart on days six and seven. If you don't, then you need to continue to isolate for the full ten days.

As a school, we continue to work closely with the local authority and within the guidance set out (and updated regularly) by the Department for Education. I have no doubt that there will be times when you might get frustrated with the information you receive but I promise you, my team and I are working as hard as we can to keep the school as safe as possible and as normal as possible for the pupils. I have spoken at length and regularly about the disruption our pupils have received since March 2020 and it is imperative we get back to a time when being in school, receiving face-to-face teaching is the norm.

Please do talk directly with me or my team if you require further clarification or have concerns over the way we are working.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

Steve Mills  
Headteacher

