

28.02.22

COVID PRECAUTIONS UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may know, over the half-term holiday the Government has changed the guidance relating to testing and self-isolation. Please see below details of how these changes relate to pupils at Glenaire Primary School.

Testing

Our staff are no longer expected to take part in asymptomatic testing. There is no need for children to take regular lateral flow tests, and we are grateful to those families in some yeargroups who did this when we had our peak of cases before half term. If your child develops one of the main symptoms of COVID-19, your child should self-isolate immediately and you should arrange for your child to take a **PCR test** as soon as possible. He/she must continue to self-isolate whilst awaiting the result of the PCR test.

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are a recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Self-isolation / Attendance at school

In line with Government guidance, if your child has tested positive for COVID-19, **they should not attend school** while they are infectious. This means that they should self-isolate and then take a **LFD test** from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these test results are negative, they should return to school, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature.

For clarity, the first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day (remember that day 1 of self-isolation is the day *following* the day on which symptoms began, or *following* the day on which the positive test was taken, where there were no symptoms). This means that someone taking a LFD test on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6 could return to school on day 6, **provided that both** tests are negative (and they do not have a temperature).

If their day 5 LFD test result is positive, they should continue taking LFD tests until they receive 2 consecutive negative test results. If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days, or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

In practice, this means that there is no real change to the self-isolation requirements for pupils – the public health guidance remains the same. A review is due in April and we will inform you of any further changes.

If you have any questions about covid in general, please contact the school office staff, who are up to date with the latest guidance and advice and will be able to help. You can also email me directly:

headteacher@glenaireprimary.co.uk with any questions.

Thank you for your continued support,

Yours sincerely

Jo Wilkinson
Headteacher