



4th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

COVID GUIDELINES JANUARY 2022

We hope that you have all managed to have a great Christmas and New Year celebration, all of us at Delapre are looking forward to welcoming the children back tomorrow (Wednesday 5th January 2022).

I am sure you are aware of the latest variant of Covid and the potential concerns and demands that this brings to the school. We would like to reassure you that measures are still in place, following all the latest guidance from both Public Health and the DfE. We continue to ask you to support us with these measures, for the safety of all at Delapre.

We ask that if you need to speak to a staff member, you remain socially distanced at all times.

At Delapre, we have been pleased that each and every day, every class has managed to remain open throughout this year. This has often been incredibly challenging with increasing staff absences. We must all be prepared that, whilst we have so far managed to provide staff for face-to-face teaching, with increased staff absences at school, we may be left with no alternative but to switch some classes to remote learning for short periods of time, and with short notice. **This will always be an absolute last resort, when every other option has been explored.**

As we did before Christmas, we will continue to send children home if they present any of the three main symptoms. We request that they then take a PCR test.

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD (Lateral Flow Device) tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. **Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation.** The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and your child does not have a high temperature, they may end their self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to school from day 8.

Please note – In order for your child to return to school on day 8 of the self-isolation period, proof of two negative LFD tests (e.g. notification through Track and Trace or photograph of negative test) will be asked for.



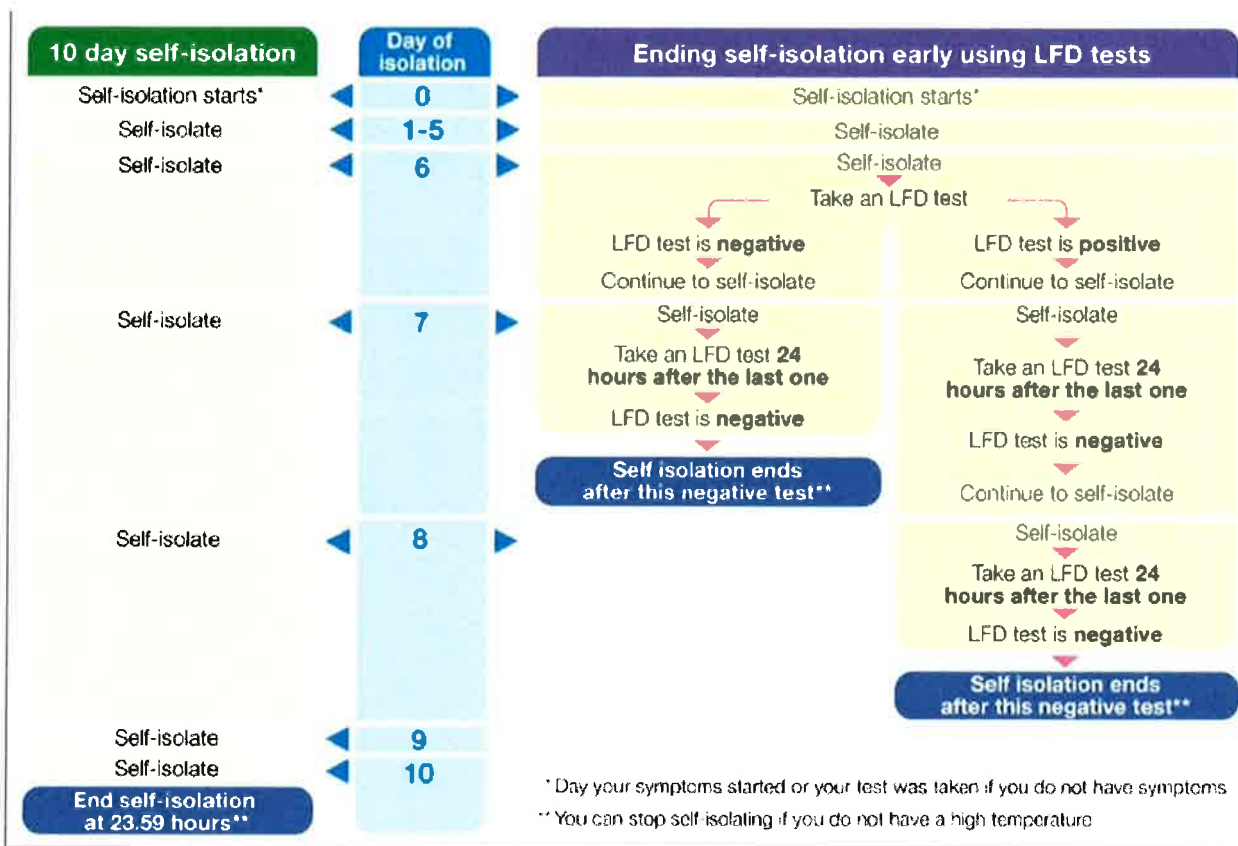
Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation. Further information is available in the 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection'.

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19:

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection'.

Please find below a useful document – Stay at home guidance (updated 30th December 2021).



Thank you for your continued support during these difficult times.

Yours faithfully

**H Portrey
Headteacher**