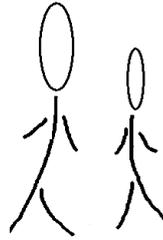


# Harewood Primary School



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Headteacher C Heywood

Deputy Headteacher ~ K Dawson

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy New Year. **We are looking forward to seeing your children back in school on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.**

We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and have managed to stay covid free. Many thanks to those of you who have contacted me over the holiday to inform me of your positive results. If you or your child has tested positive in the last 10 days please can you let us know by email on:

[harewood@sbcschools.org.uk](mailto:harewood@sbcschools.org.uk)

As you are probably aware the rules regarding isolation have changed over the Christmas period. Please could you continue to inform school if you test positive in order that we can ensure that you are following the guidance that we have received from the Department of Education. We may also need to provide this information to Public Health.

## **Information on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19**

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 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. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8. Please contact school with this information.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests (including if you are unable to access an LFD test) will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

## **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.

We will continue to ensure that classrooms are well ventilated. Please can you make sure that your child has plenty of layers on underneath their school jumper as it can be cold in the classrooms.

Kind regards,

Caroline Heywood