



Hollinswood Primary School and Nursery

Headteacher: Mr G Atkinson BEd(Hons)



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07 January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

After what seemed like a long Christmas break, the children have settled back in quickly and are enjoying the challenge of a new year and a new term. Thank you to all parents/carers who responded to the request to test children before returning.

We are being told that the new variant of Covid-19 will have a significant impact on schools in the weeks ahead so here is a summary of the latest guidance from the Local Authority

- If children have symptoms* then they need to isolate and have a PCR test. This is the test carried out at a test centre. If positive, they must isolate for a minimum of 7 days **after** the day that symptoms started. If negative on a Lateral Flow test (LFT) on day 6 & 7 then they can return to school if they are well.
- If a child without symptoms tests positive on a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) then they no longer need a PCR test to confirm this. If they test negative on a Lateral Flow Test on day 6 and 7 then they can return to school if they are well.
- To clarify, the day they test positive or start having symptoms is effectively Day Zero. The key seven days start after day zero.
- If your child is in a class where someone tests positive, then we will let you know. The Local Authority **advice** is then for your child to take a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) for 7 days. This is different advice from last term. I know it is difficult to get tests at the moment, but we have been asked to encourage you to persist. The following link may be useful:
https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20791/getting_a_covid-19_test_in_telford_and_wrekin
- If your child is in Nursery and there is a positive case, then the advice is for the children to have a PCR test **not** seven days of Lateral Flow Tests as other children.

As advice is ever changing, **please contact school immediately if you want clarification** on what to do next.

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

G. ATKINSON
HEADTEACHER

* Although there has not been any update to the national definition of COVID-19 symptoms (cough, high temperature, loss/change in taste/smell), if COVID-19 is circulating in the school/setting please also be mindful of the wider symptoms of COVID-19 – sore throat, headache, fatigue, muscle aches, blocked/runny nose, shortness of breath, diarrhoea and vomiting, and cold-like symptoms.