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16th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday afternoon, just after the letter from Sue Samson had been sent to you, the DfE confirmed in an email to leaders that from Tuesday 14th December, *“a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of Covid-19 is being introduced (including until the end of this term). All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with Covid-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self isolating.”*

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should:

- Take an LFD test each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#) and to their school.
- If they test negative, they can continue to attend school.
- If they test positive, they should self-isolate and order a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if positive.
- Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.
- For students with SEND who struggle to or are unable to self-swab daily for 7 days, settings should work with students and their families to agree an appropriate testing route, such as assisted swabbing. Information on further support measures will be provided.
- This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Geddes Mrs Flitton
Headteacher – Infants Headteacher - Juniors