

Additional Covid Information January 2022

Pupils identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a Lateral flow test every day for 7 days and continue to attend the academy as normal, unless they have a positive test result.

Daily testing of close contacts applies to those who are:

- fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine
- all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months (pupils), regardless of their vaccination status
- people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine

Although close contacts are strongly advised to get a test, they should continue to attend our academy unless they are symptomatic. The academy will follow up with families if we are not satisfied with the reason as to why the pupil is not in. If necessary we will request supporting evidence. If we are still not satisfied with the reason given for absence, then we may record this using one of the unauthorised absence codes, in line with the academy attendance policy.

Pupils with SEND identified as close contacts and their families will be supported by the us to agree the most appropriate route for testing including, where appropriate, additional support to assist swabbing.

As of 11th January 2022 students who have a positive lateral flow test WITHOUT symptoms DO NOT necessarily need to follow up with a PCR. Students who have a positive flow test WITH symptoms DO NEED a follow up PCR test.

When to stop self-isolating

You can stop self-isolating after 7 days if you do a rapid lateral flow test on days 6 and 7 of your self-isolation period and:

- both tests are negative
- you did both tests at least 24 hours apart
- you do not have a high temperature

If you do a rapid lateral flow test on day 6 and test positive, wait 24 hours before you do the next test.

If you stop self-isolating on or after day 7, it's important that you take steps to reduce the chance of passing COVID-19 to others. This means you should:

- wear a face covering in shops, on public transport and when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors, in crowded places or where there is not much fresh air
- limit contact with people at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19
- follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#)

Further information is available in NHS Test and Trace: what to do if you are contacted and in the stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.