

# Woodmancote School

## COVID-19-Risk Assessment

### GCC COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR SCHOOLS (FROM STEP 4)

This is an update of the GCC COVID-19 Risk Assessment to support schools and educational settings in Step 4 of the Government Roadmap from 19 July 2021\*. The aim of the risk assessment is to implement protective measures in the government's operational guidance to protect your staff, pupils and community.

This update has moved away from the Assess – Plan – Do – Review model previously used (see below) into a more traditional risk assessment format that identifies each hazard, who is at risk, guidance on what you should be doing and any further actions that are required.



Some people at work may have particular characteristics meaning they are at comparatively increased risk from COVID-19 (due to age, deprivation, ethnicity, pregnancy, etc.) and as employer the school must consider them in their risk assessment.



The operational guidance for schools was updated on 17 August 2021 [here](#). The key changes are summarised here:

- Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:
  - they are fully vaccinated
  - they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
  - they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
  - they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a [PCR test](#). They should continue to attend school as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.

- School will have an Outbreak Management Plan outlining what school would do if children, pupils, students or staff test positive for COVID-19, or how school would operate if advised to take extra measures to help break chains of transmission.

Further information on contingency plans, along with an updated Covid response checklist and FAQs, will be issued at the latest by Friday 27 August in advance of schools returning for the autumn term.

### October 21<sup>st</sup> 2021

South West Regional Consensus Schools Statement

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schoolsnet/noticeboard/covid-19-information-and-guidance/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-in-education-and-childcare-settings>



## COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment for Woodmancote School							
Hazards	Who is at risk?	What are you already doing?	Is enough to manage the risks?	What further action is necessary?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
<p><b>Person showing symptoms or positive test result</b></p>	<p>Employees Pupils Young People Families Contractors Visitors Members of the public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to GCC COVID Response Checklist and public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.</li> <li>• Regular communications that persons are not to come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (e.g. they are required to quarantine).</li> <li>• If anyone in your school develops COVID-19 symptoms they will be sent home.</li> <li>• An unwell child awaiting collection will be isolated in a suitable room with or without adult supervision (depending on age and needs of the child).</li> <li>• Staff caring for a child awaiting collection to keep a distance of 2 metres.</li> <li>• PPE to be worn by staff caring for the child, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ a face mask worn if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained.</li> <li>○ if contact is necessary, then gloves, an apron and a face mask should be worn</li> <li>○ eye protection where there is a risk of fluids entering the eye, for example, from coughing, spitting or vomiting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Staff to wash their hands after caring for a child with symptoms.</li> </ul>		<p>Increase the use of home testing by staff (primaries)</p> <p>Consider reintroducing face coverings and bubbles temporarily</p> <p>Attendance restriction will only be recommended by the government as a last resort.</p>	<p>HT Admin Staff</p>	<p>On-Going</p>	



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All areas where a person with symptoms has been to be cleaned after they have left.</li> <li>• <b>If there is more than five positive tests, the school's outbreak management plan will be initiated.</b></li> <li>• School has sufficient supplies of PPE, face coverings, cleaning materials and hand washing/sanitising liquids.</li> <li>• Update staff, pupils, stakeholders and visitors on changes in practice – Step 4 measures.</li> <li>• If a parent/carer insists on a pupil attending your school with symptoms, Headteacher may refuse the pupil if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.</li> </ul>					
<b>Poor Personal Hygiene</b>	<p>Employees Pupils Young People Families Contractors Visitors Members of the public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID-19 posters/ signage displayed.</li> <li>• Frequent and thorough hand cleaning is regular practice.</li> <li>• Pupils and staff to clean their hands when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating.</li> <li>• Sufficient handwashing facilities are available.</li> <li>• Where there is no sink, hand sanitiser provided in classrooms.</li> <li>• Staff help is available for pupils who have trouble cleaning their hands independently (e.g. small children and pupils with complex needs).</li> <li>• Use resources such as “e-bug” to teach effective hand hygiene etc.</li> <li>• Adults and pupils are encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose.</li> <li>• Adults and pupils encouraged to use a tissue to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, kill it').</li> <li>• Tissues to be provided.</li> <li>• Bins for tissues provided and are emptied throughout the day.</li> </ul>		<p>Put in place monitoring and supervision to make sure people are following any controls you have in place, including enhanced cleaning.</p> <p>Where individuals are not following the recommended procedures, reminders will be posted in staffroom and via Briefing Notes</p>	All	On-Going	



Woodmancote School  
Broomfield, Ardingly

<p><b>Spreading coronavirus from contact with surfaces, equipment and workstations</b></p>	<p>Employees Pupils Young People Families Contractors Visitors Members of the public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced clutter and removing difficult to clean items to make cleaning easier.</li> <li>• Cleaning using standard cleaning products such as detergents and bleach, paying attention to all surfaces but especially ones that are touched frequently, such as door handles, light switches, work surfaces, remote controls and electronic devices.</li> <li>• Surfaces that are frequently touched and by many people in common areas to be cleaned twice a day.</li> <li>• Avoid sharing work equipment by allocating it on a personal basis or put cleaning regimes in place to clean between each user.</li> <li>• Identify where you can reduce people touching surfaces, for example by leaving doors open (<b>except fire doors</b>)</li> <li>• Keep surfaces clear to make it easier to clean and reduce the likelihood of contaminating objects.</li> <li>• Provide more bins and empty them more often.</li> <li>• Toilets and communal areas to be cleaned regularly.</li> <li>• Sanitising spray and paper towels to be provided in classrooms for use by members of staff.</li> <li>• Thorough cleaning of rooms at the end of the day.</li> </ul>		<p>Put in place monitoring and supervision to make sure people are following controls, for example by implementing cleaning regimes.</p> <p>Provide information telling people who should clean something and when.</p> <p>Provide instruction and training to people who need to clean.</p> <p>Include information on the products they need to use, precautions they need to follow and the areas they need to clean</p>	<p>Caretaker Glen Cleaning SBM HT</p>	<p>Weekly checks</p>	
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<p><b>Poorly ventilated spaces leading to risks of coronavirus spreading</b></p>	<p>Employees Pupils Young People Families Contractors Visitors Members of the public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ventilation and AC systems (Little Chestnuts) working optimally.</li> <li>• Heating used as necessary to ensure comfort levels are maintained when the building is occupied.</li> <li>• Keep windows open wide enough to provide some natural background ventilation and open internal doors to increase air flow.</li> <li>• Open windows fully when rooms are unoccupied for longer periods to purge the air (e.g. lunch times and before and after school).</li> <li>• Action taken to prevent occupants being exposed to draughts. For example, partially open high-level windows as oppose to low-level windows, close external doors and arrange the furniture if appropriate and possible.</li> <li>• Use fans for good air circulation.</li> <li>• Air conditioning systems that normally run with a recirculation mode set up to run on full outside air.</li> <li>• Ventilations system that removes and recirculates air to different rooms is turned off.</li> <li>• Ventilation system remains on at all times, even when the building is unoccupied. The system set to operate at lower ventilation rates during evenings and weekends.</li> <li>• Occupants encouraged to wear additional, suitable indoor clothing. (If they have to wear coats, scarves and other outdoor clothing the room would be considered too cold and the above steps must be considered).</li> <li>• Ensure staff meetings and insets are in rooms with suitable and sufficient ventilation.</li> </ul>		<p>Identify any poorly ventilated spaces take steps to improve fresh air flow in these areas.</p> <p>Maintain air conditioning plant and equipment as per manufacturer's instructions.</p>	<p>Caretaker</p> <p>All staff to also take personal responsibility</p>	<p>Weekly</p>	
<p><b>Increased risk of infection and complications for workers who are</b></p>	<p>Employees Pupils Young People Families Contractors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify who in the work force could be clinically extremely vulnerable and refer to government guidance and HSE and PHE guidance on protecting vulnerable workers during the pandemic on how to support workers in higher-risk groups and those who are clinically extremely vulnerable.</li> </ul>		<p>Guidance on who is clinically extremely vulnerable and what further support may be</p>	<p>SBM and HT</p>	<p>Termly</p>	



<b>clinically extremely vulnerable and workers in higher- risk groups</b>	Visitors Members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out a risk assessment of pregnant workers to identify the risk and measures to be taken.</li> <li>Some pregnant workers will be at greater risk of severe illness from coronavirus and they should stay at home as much as possible and work from home if they can.</li> <li>Where adjustments to the job or working from home is not possible pregnant workers will be suspended from work on paid leave.</li> </ul>		available from Public Health England.  Keep under review completed individual risk assessments for pregnant workers.			
<b>Airborne spread of COVID</b>	Employees Pupils Young People Families Contractors Visitors Members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although from Step 4, face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff and visitors, persons choosing to wear face coverings as a precaution will not be deterred when outside the classroom.</li> <li>Where staff are in enclosed and crowded spaces, face masks are recommended (but not required).</li> </ul>			All staff	On-going	
<b>Returning to work after summer closure</b>	Employees Pupils Young People Families Contractors Visitors Members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buildings and health and safety compliance checks continue to be undertaken (e.g. fire alarm, emergency lighting, water hygiene, lifts, etc.).</li> <li>Checking mechanical ventilation systems are working effectively and are properly maintained.</li> <li>Information and instruction for returning workers to ensure clarity on arrangements for cleaning and hygiene and ventilation.</li> <li>Vaccination is a control measure against COVID so staff can be asked to confirm that they are vaccinated. This information will assist in the risk assessment for outbreak management plans.</li> <li>Communicate updates with supply staff and other temporary or peripatetic staff and volunteers to follow the school's arrangements for managing and minimising risk.</li> </ul>		Documents to be shared via Briefing Notes)	Caretaker  SBM HT	Weekly	



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff to undertake twice weekly home tests whenever they are on site until at least the end of September.</li> <li>• Review/update policies to reflect changes brought about by updated COVID-19 requirements.</li> <li>• Ensure website is compliant with regards to the publishing of policies and risk assessment.</li> </ul>			All staff		
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<b>Completed by:</b>	<b>G Tucker</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021</b>
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<b>Reviewed by</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Next Review Due</b>
R Williams	26 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	3 <sup>rd</sup> September
G Tucker	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	October 2021
G Tucker	30 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	12 <sup>th</sup> November
G Tucker	15 <sup>th</sup> November	30 <sup>th</sup> November
G Tucker	30 <sup>th</sup> November	





### South West COVID-19 update

The South West Regional Schools Commission, South West UK Health Security Agency (formerly PHE) and the South West Directors of Public Health have together requested that schools review their outbreak management plan and risk assessments in light of rapidly rising COVID-19 infection rates. This is because the south west is experiencing the impact of national rising case rates and the impact of increased transmission arising from false negative PCR results. Case rates in our region have increased sharply against the national average and are expected to continue to rise.

The South West Directors of Public Health have identified that the greatest prevalence of COVID-19 is being seen in school age children and their families, and recommend that enhanced mitigations are implemented to reduce transmission, prevent school closures and maintain appropriate levels of education. They have recommended that schools invoke a precautionary set of measures and maintain these for 14 days post half term whilst they review the impact of social mixing after half term.

### Our current protective measures

We will continue to maintain the following protective measures:

- Enhanced cleaning
- Improved ventilation
- Regular handwashing

### Additional protective measures in school

In light of the level of infection rates, we will also **reduce the mixing between groups of children as much as possible by:**

- Maintaining year group bubbles for the duration of the school day, including lunchtimes and breaktimes.
- Pausing assemblies for the time being and moving to a virtual platform.

We will also **reduce the number of close contacts** by:

- **Postponing Parent Consultation Evenings** this coming week and moving to School Cloud. Details about this will be sent out week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> November.
- **Suspending for two weeks all indoor clubs where children from different year groups come together.** All outdoor clubs will continue as normal.



- **Suspending all face to face meetings with parents for the first two weeks of the new term.** If you have a meeting booked already, the member of staff responsible will be contacting you shortly.
- **Postponing Harvest Festival on the 9<sup>th</sup> November** A new date will follow if infection levels fall.

In order to **minimise congestion and transmission** at drop off pick up times, please:

- Enter and leave the site as quickly as possible and avoid congregating in large groups
- Wear a face covering unless you are exempt.

### Protective measures in our community

In order to keep our community as safe as possible, we strongly urge:

- Everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated against COVID-19 if they haven't done so already
- Everyone who is unwell to stay at home
- Everyone to self-isolate and book a PCR test if they feel that there is a possibility that they have COVID-19
- Everyone who is eligible to participate in twice weekly asymptomatic lateral flow testing.

### Lateral Flow Testing

Please be aware that the South West Directors of public health are now recommending, due to the high prevalence of COVID-19, that lateral flow tests can be used by primary school aged children if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive on a PCR.

### COVID-19 symptoms

Please be aware that many of the children and adults in our community who have had COVID-19 in recent weeks have not experienced the three official COVID-19 symptoms that have historically been associated with COVID-19 (a high temperature/change to sense of smell or taste/a new persistent cough).

Instead, families and staff have reported having a blocked or runny nose, sore throat, headache, tiredness and diarrhoea.

If you are at all concerned that you, or anyone in your household has COVID-19, please book a PCR test straight away. Lateral flow tests should only be used by people that are not experiencing any symptoms.

**Please remember that for most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.**

### Please update us



Please email [admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk) if anyone in your family has tested positive for COVID-19 during the school holiday. Please let us know when periods of isolation come to an end and whether your child(ren) is well enough to participate in remote learning.

### Thank you

We hope that these additional protective measures and a cautious approach will help us to keep everyone healthy and our school fully open in the run up to Christmas. We will share updates from the south west and local authority advisors as soon as we receive them.

Thank you for your help in keeping our community as safe as possible. Please email [head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk) if you have any questions or queries – I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Mr G Tucker

### November 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 Update In addition to the above

In line with guidance to keep existing controls measure in place until the end of November, the following update applies.

#### School Productions

Reception nativity due to take place on 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> December to move online, with recording distributed.

Key Stage 1 Carol Concert-Outside on the 10<sup>th</sup>, limited to one member of each family, socially distanced, weather permitting

#### School Visitors

Face to face meeting suspended until further notice

Prospective Parents-Meetings arranged, masks to be worn and no entering classrooms. Hall discussion to be socially distanced.

#### Meetings

Parents-remote using TEAMS

Professionals-dependent upon the seriousness of the case (e.g. Safeguarding)

Governors-Remote using TEAMS



## November 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 UPDATE Changes following new Guidance

Following our email on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November, please find attached the updated South West Consensus Letter.

Guidance has also been updated in response to concerns regarding the Omicron variant as follows:

- Face coverings are now recommended in communal areas in all schools for adults and for pupils from year 7 onwards
- All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will be contacted directly and required to self-isolate immediately and asked to book a PCR test.

Existing guidance remains regarding:

- Isolate and book a PCR test if you experience any of the three symptoms of Covid-19 (fever, new persistent cough, loss or change in sense of smell or taste).
- School staff and pupils aged 11 and over should test using a LFD twice a week, this will help to identify asymptomatic cases or cases with atypical symptoms. Current evidence suggests that LFDs and PCRs continue to be effective at identifying all strains of Covid-19.
- Face-coverings continue to be recommended on school transport for those aged 11 and over.

### ***On-site Covid testing in January***

Secondary schools have been asked to set up on-site testing facilities for pupils when they return to school after the Christmas break. Schools are being asked to test pupils on site once (rather than two or three times, as has previously been the case).

Tests, PPE and workforce funding will be provided as before. Schools are being asked to order sufficient test kits by **Tuesday 30 November**.

We have updated our Covid information in line with the latest guidance and this can be found on Schoolsnet on the [noticeboard](#). Guidance continues to be updated at a fast pace and we recommend that schools routinely access the documents from the noticeboard to ensure that the most up to date version is being used.

### **Education COVID Comms**



## December 9<sup>th</sup> 2021 update

### 09 December – Coronavirus (COVID-19) – URGENT Update to all early years, children’s social care, schools, further education and higher education providers

Today’s email includes an urgent update for all education and childcare settings on implementing Plan B of the COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan

We have discussed this update with ASCL, NAHT and CST and agreed it would be helpful to issue this update first thing this morning

Information for all education and childcare settings on implementing Plan B of the COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan

On Wednesday 8 December, the Prime Minister announced the implementation of Plan B of the COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan, to reduce pressure on the NHS. Plan B sets out a number of additional measures across society to control transmission of COVID-19.

The Government is clear on the critical importance of not disrupting the education of children and young people and the Government will prioritise keeping all education and childcare settings open. The measures set out below will support this.

#### **Attendance**

School attendance remains mandatory and all the usual rules continue to apply. Enabling children and young people to attend their education setting regularly continues to be a national priority. As usual, schools are able to grant leaves of absence for pupils in exceptional circumstances.

#### **Face coverings**

Face coverings should be worn by pupils and students in year 7 and above (which would be children who were aged 11 on 31 August 2021), staff and visitors in communal areas, unless exempt. This is a temporary measure. Pupils and students in year 7 and above in these settings must also wear a face covering when travelling on public transport and should wear it on dedicated transport to and from school, college, or higher education provider.

We do not recommend that pupils and staff wear face coverings in classrooms, unless their Director of Public Health advises them to temporarily do so in one of the circumstances described in the Contingency Framework Guidance.



### **Wrap around provision**

Schools and early years settings should continue to offer their usual before and after-school activities, including wraparound childcare. These activities provide valuable childcare for working parents and carers and promote the wellbeing of children and young people.

### **Working from home**

Office workers who can work from home should do so from Monday 13 December. Anyone who cannot work from home should continue to go into work – for example, to access equipment necessary for their role or where their role must be completed in-person. In-person working will be necessary in some cases to continue the effective and accessible delivery of some public services and private industries.

We expect all education and childcare settings, including further and higher education providers, to continue to provide face-to-face teaching, and staff should continue to attend their place of work if required in order to deliver this. Teaching and learning should not be moved online as a result of the work from home guidance and we continue to expect higher education students (unless distance learners) to receive an element of face-to-face tuition. Therapists and wider children's service professionals should continue to be invited into education and childcare settings.

Education and childcare leaders are best placed to determine the workforce required to meet the needs of their children, pupils and students. Education and childcare leaders will need to consider whether it is possible for specific staff undertaking certain roles to work from home, while minimising disruption to face-to-face education and care.

Following expert clinical advice and the successful rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine programme, people previously considered to be particularly vulnerable, clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), and high or higher-risk are not being advised to shield again.

Children and young people previously considered CEV should attend their setting and should follow the same COVID-19 guidance as the rest of the population. In some circumstances, a child or young person may have received personal advice from their specialist or clinician on additional precautions to take and they should continue to follow that advice.

### **Testing**

We strongly encourage all those involved in education and childcare settings to continue regular testing (LFD not PCR) and reporting their results, and to encourage pupils and students in year 7 and above to test and report their results.

Settings are strongly encouraged to ask parents, guardians and other visitors to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test before entering the setting.



## **Isolation**

All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will continue to be required to self-isolate and asked to book a PCR test.

The Government plans to introduce Daily Contact Testing as soon as possible as an alternative to self-isolation for contacts of positive Omicron cases who are fully vaccinated or under the age of 18 years and 6 months.

## **January return**

We continue to learn more about the impacts of the Omicron variant. To prepare for any possible changes in public health advice, all education and childcare settings should now revisit their existing outbreak plans to ensure they are well prepared for any future changes and ensure they are familiar with the Contingency Framework Guidance.

Similarly, colleges and higher education providers should review their outbreak plans and ensure that contingency plans are up to date.

There are exams for vocational and technical qualifications timetabled for January. Students who are due to sit these exams will be prepared and it is right that they should be given every opportunity to demonstrate what they have learnt. Exams and formal assessments will go ahead. Consequently, it is essential that students continue to prepare for these assessments.

We have recently asked all secondary schools to provide an on-site test for pupils on return in January. Testing in school helps to boost participation and will help reduce transmission after a period of mixing over the holidays.

For those in settings closing over Christmas, all staff and students should test over the holidays in line with national guidance. This means that they should test if they will be in a high-risk situation that day and before visiting people who are at higher risk of severe illness if they get COVID-19.

For settings remaining open over the Christmas period (such as private nurseries, higher education or adult education providers), staff and students should continue to test at home twice per week over the holiday period.

Further and higher education students, and staff in all educational and childcare settings, should take one self-test at home either the evening or morning before they return in January. Then they should continue to test in line with government guidelines and we recommend all staff and eligible students take up the offer of a vaccine.



## Inspection

Early years settings, schools and colleges will be using the final days of term to put in place these measures and consider contingency measures for January. In order to do that contingency planning, the Secretary of State for Education and Her Majesty's Chief Inspector have agreed that early years settings, schools and colleges will not be inspected next week unless there are safeguarding concerns.

Ofsted has already confirmed that secondary schools will not be inspected, unless there are urgent concerns, during the first week of schools' return in January, in light of the onsite pupil testing that secondary schools will be undertaking that week. Ofsted inspections will continue to play an important role in providing independent assurance as schools and colleges continue to respond to the pandemic.

Ofsted visits for Children's Social Care, local authority SEND services and joint targeted area inspections will continue.

December 15<sup>th</sup> 2021

Covid Enquiries Update

[Schools COVID-19 operational guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

### Daily testing of close contacts

From today, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 to 18 years and 6 months identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, are strongly advised to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result. Daily testing should be undertaken even if close contacts are within 90 days of confirmed infection. The 90 day pause is only applicable to routine asymptomatic testing.

The guidance states that daily testing should commence when identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace. We recommend that schools also advise daily testing for close contacts that they have identified within their settings.

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 primary aged children [LFD test kits are available through the usual routes](#) (community test sites, local pharmacies or online).

Updated warn and inform letters and UKHSA flowchart can be found on the Schoolsnet [noticeboard](#).

#### Clinically Extremely Vulnerable & Attendance

School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age. The shielding programme has now ended and people who were previously considered clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) are no longer advised to shield. Continued absence on the basis of previous shielding guidance should be marked as unauthorised, unless there is written confirmation from an individual's health professional advising of a requirement for additional precautions.

#### January 4<sup>th</sup> Update

#### Additional measures in light of rising case numbers caused by new variant

All existing control measures to remain in place for at least initial fortnight.

In light of the potential for higher than manageable staff absence, school to

- Issue all Reception aged children log ins for Remote Learning
- Issue all class teachers with copies of previous log ins for all other pupils
- Identify with all Supply teachers that we have registered, available dates for January/February
- SLT may need to suspend PPA cover to ensure staff absent from school are covered in the classroom

In light of the potential of increased numbers of children having to self-isolate, SLT to

- Update Remote Learning Policy and reissue to all staff
- Update Remote Learning Policy on the website
- Updates to include greater emphasis on ensuring that children who are self-isolating have access to in school learning/teaching via TEAMS