



# ST. JOHN'S WALHAM GREEN CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Love one another"

## COVID-19 SCHOOL PROTOCOLS AND GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE

Updated: 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### SCHOOL PROTOCOLS:

- School will continue to operate the traffic light system from our COVID-19 Operational plan. Our Covid-19 status will be shared in the weekly newsletter.
- Parents must inform the school on the day their child develops any COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test result. (Please see the following page for new testing guidance.) When informing the school, please supply the following information:
  - Type of symptoms (if any) and date symptoms started
  - Date LFT / PCR taken
- Close contacts are now identified by NHS Test and Trace. However, if there is a positive case in your child's class, you will receive a letter from the school, which will include the following:
  - Confirmation of positive case in your child's class
  - You will be advised to give your child an LFT test every day for 7 days
  - If the result is positive, your child to immediately self-isolate.
  - You do not need to take a follow-up PCR test.

### GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE:

#### **LATERAL FLOW TESTING**

Lateral Flow Tests are taken by people who **do not** have COVID-19 symptoms.

- From 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022, if you receive a positive result from an LFD you are required to self-isolate immediately.
- You won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.
- This is a temporary measure while COVID-19 rates remain high across the UK.

If you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine and have received a positive LFD you should still follow this guidance. This is because it is still possible to get COVID-19 and spread it to others, even if you are vaccinated.

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#### **PCR TESTING**

PCR tests are taken by people if they have [COVID-19 symptoms](#).

- Anyone who develops COVID-19 Symptoms should stay at home, self-isolate and take a PCR test.
- They must self-isolate if they get a positive test result, even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test.

If you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine and have any of the symptoms of COVID-19, you should still follow this guidance. This is because it is still possible to get COVID-19 and spread it to others, even if you are vaccinated.

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## **ISOLATION RULES**

### **10 day Isolation:**

- Self-isolation period starts immediately from when your symptoms started, or, if you do not have any symptoms, from when your positive LFD or PCR test was taken, whichever test was taken first.
- Your self-isolation period includes the day your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you do not have symptoms), and the next 10 full days.
- You can return to your normal routine and stop self-isolating after 10 full days if your symptoms have gone, or if the only symptoms you have are a cough or anosmia.

### **Ending 10 day isolation earlier:**

You may be able to end your self-isolation period before the end of the 10 full days. You should not take an LFD test before the sixth day of your self-isolation period, and you should only end your self-isolation after you have had 2 consecutive negative LFD tests

- You can take an LFD test from 6 days after the day your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you did not have symptoms).
- The second LFD test should be taken at least 24 hours later.
- 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.

**From Monday 17 January, people with COVID-19 in England can end their self-isolation after 5 full days, as long as they test negative on day 5 and day 6.**

**People self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative on both day 5 and day 6 and do not have a temperature.**

**Individuals who are still positive on their rapid lateral flow tests must stay in isolation until they have had 2 consecutive negative tests taken on separate days**

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## **CLOSE CONTACTS OF POSITIVE CASES**

If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 you are at significantly higher risk of becoming infected yourself. If you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years, and you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you are not legally required to self-isolate.

People aged 5 years and over are strongly advised to:

- Take an LFD test every day for 7 days, or until 10 days after the household member who has COVID-19 started their self-isolation period if this is earlier.
- If you take an LFD test and the result is positive, you should immediately self-isolate to prevent you from passing the infection on to other people and follow the advice for people who have COVID-19. You do not need to take a follow-up PCR test.

Follow this advice until the household member who has COVID-19 reaches the end of their self-isolation period.