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Thursday 13th January 2022

Dear parents and carers

No doubt you will be aware of new guidance from Government regarding COVID 19. As a result of an increase in cases across the city, and in our schools I felt it may be useful to clarify the current testing and isolation arrangements.

From 11 January in England, people who receive **positive lateral flow device (LFD) test** results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be **required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test**. This is a temporary measure while COVID-19 rates remain high across the UK.

Lateral flow tests are taken by people who do not have COVID-19 symptoms. Anyone who develops 1 of the 3 main COVID-19 symptoms should stay at home and 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 – these rules have not changed.

From Monday 17th January in England, isolation periods for those who have tested positive will change:

Individuals now need to isolate for a full five days and may now take tests from **day 5 and day 6 of their self-isolation period (if they are well)**. Those who receive two negative test results (LFD) are no longer required to complete 10 days of self-isolation but can leave isolation from the start of day 6. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the isolation period and tests must be taken at **least 24hrs apart**.

I hope that this helps to clarify the changes for you and please get in touch with your child's school if you have any concerns or queries.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alison", written in a cursive style.

Alison Nettleship
CEO
Discovery Multi Academy Trust