



ST MICHAEL'S
C of E PRIMARY
HIGHGATE

Covid-19 FAQs For Parents And Carers

Updated January 2022

Confirmatory PCR tests are to be temporarily suspended for positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results

Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January 2022. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will **not** be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

LFD tests are now recommended for use by children under the age of 12 to be used as a preventative measure in school's Outbreak Management Plans. This is because new evidence suggests that Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests are more than 80% accurate in testing those with no symptoms.

What if my child test positive, how long should they isolate for?

The period required for self-isolation has now been reduced from 10 days to seven days. This only applies however if your child takes a lateral flow test on day six and day seven of their self-isolation period. If those test results are negative they no longer need to complete the 10 full days of self-isolation. The 10 day period will remain, however, if you are unable to take the LFD tests or the LFD tests on days 6 and/or 7 are positive.

➤ How to count the days

Day one of the self-isolation period is the day after your symptoms start or the day after they take the test if they are asymptomatic. Seven days isolation and come to school on day **eight**.

What should we do if someone in the household tests positive?

Pupils who live with someone who has tested positive e.g. a sibling or parent, pupils should take a PCR test and should **NOT** come to school until they receive the result of the PCR. This is to prevent the spread of the virus between year groups. If the pupil receives a negative result they can return to school but should take a LFD test every day for 7 days while they continue to attend school

as household transmission is highly likely. LFD testing should start from when the first person in the home tests positive. If at any point the pupil themselves becomes symptomatic they must take another PCR test immediately.

What if my child is a close contact with another child?

If a pupil is identified as a close contact of another pupil within school who has tested positive, the school will advise the close contact to take a LFD test immediately and then again take another LFD test 3 days later

If at any point the pupil themselves becomes symptomatic they must arrange for a PCR test immediately and remain at home.

How should I contact the school if my child tests positive?

Please complete the Covid 19 report form on the school website or email admin@stmichaelsn6.com giving your child's full name and class; when the test was taken and which kind of test was taken (LFD or PCR); and, if your child is symptomatic, when the symptoms started. We will then contact you as soon as possible to discuss close contacts and see how you are?

What if my child becomes well enough and can access home learning?

As long as your child feels well enough they can access online learning. They should log into their Google Classroom where work will be uploaded for them. On the first day a bank of suggested online resources and class planning will be available, from the second day the teaching will continue to deliver via a live stream.

The school will make contact with you in the event of your class teacher not being able to stream any live lessons due to the impact of Covid-19 on staff in school, which may result in limited or less than previous live teaching sessions.

What happens if my child's class goes into a bubble?

If there are 3 or more cases in a class the threshold to move the class into a bubble will have been triggered. A member of staff will explained to the children in an age-appropriate way. The bubble will have a separate area to play and eat, and will not mix with other years for purposes like assemblies, clubs and it may be necessary to separate them at drop off and collection from the rest of the school.

How long they remain in the bubble will depend on the number of children who test positive within the bubble.

Further information

Lateral flow test kits are readily available in all pharmacies or can be ordered online at [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/order-coronavirus-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-tests).

In addition to the above new measures we continue to monitor our risk assessments. All children wash their hands regularly; all classrooms are well ventilated and cleaned very regularly and we use CO2 meters to monitor the ventilation in each classroom. Children are able to wear additional layers and coats in class if necessary. School uniform still applies.

We are restricting visitors to the school site to protect our school community. Parents should only enter the school if they have a pre-arranged meeting.

We thank you for your support as we continue to strive towards keeping our school and wider community safe.

Further information from GOV.UK *What parents and carers need to know in schools*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

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