



Radley CE Primary School & Foundation Stage Unit

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely, restful Christmas and a Happy New Year, and were able to spend it with your friends and families as we were all looking forward to.

It will be brilliant to see the children back in school tomorrow, especially as we will not be in our class bubbles. **As has been the message for the Christmas break: if you are able to, before venturing out we would be very grateful if you could lateral flow test your child before their return to school to ensure that they are not asymptomatic.**

Thank you for your support in this matter, this continues to enable us to keep our wider school community protected from a widespread outbreak, and this will be especially important over the coming term with the Omicron variant being so prevalent.

Information on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. 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 and return to your education setting from day 8.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation. Further information is available in the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

If this is the case, and to further reduce the chance of passing Covid-19 on to others, if you end your self-isolation period before the full 10 days the government guidance 'strongly advises' you:

- To limit close contact with other people outside your household, especially in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces
- Work from home if you are able to
- In addition to venues where it is a legal requirement, to wear a face covering in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces and where you are in close contact with other people
- To limit contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with Covid-19

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day

for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts, however we believe it would be prudent to do so where possible and may help to keep our children, staff and families safe from infection. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not legally required to self-isolate or daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

Staffing updates for Cherwell and Isis Classes:

I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Ilsley is feeling much better and will, over the next couple of weeks, gradually return to teaching Cherwell Class. To ensure continuity the class will also be taught by either Mrs McConaghy, Mrs Rogers or myself:

Tuesday 5th – Mrs Ilsley am, Mrs McConaghy pm
Wednesday 6th – Mrs McConaghy all day
Thursday 7th – Mrs Rogers am, Mrs Thomas pm
Friday 8th – Mrs McConaghy all day

Monday 11th – Mrs Ilsley am, Mrs Rogers pm
Tuesday 12th - Mrs Ilsley am, Mrs McConaghy pm
Wednesday 13th – Mrs McConaghy all day
Thursday 14th – Mrs Rogers am, Mrs Thomas pm
Friday 15th - Mrs Ilsley am, Mrs Rogers pm

There's more great news from Mr Wolstenholme who has successfully had his long awaited procedure over the holidays and is happy to report that he is on the road to recovery! While he convalesces, Isis class will be taught tomorrow by Mr Mark Conway from Class Act Supply teaching services next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Quigley will teach on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday this week, and Thursday and Friday next week as usual. It will be great to have everyone back on board and a step nearer to normality, whatever that may be!

Yours sincerely,

Claire Thomas
Headteacher