

24th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

On Monday 21 February, the Prime Minister set out the next phase of the government's COVID-19 response '[Living with COVID-19](#)'. COVID-19 continues to be a virus that we learn to live with and it is essential that we provide children with as little disrupted learning as possible.

On Thursday 24th February, the DFE published updated guidance for schools. As always, Northern Ambition Academies Trust will follow this guidance, and therefore has made some changes to our operational guidance. These changes will be in place from the start of the new term, on Monday 28th February.

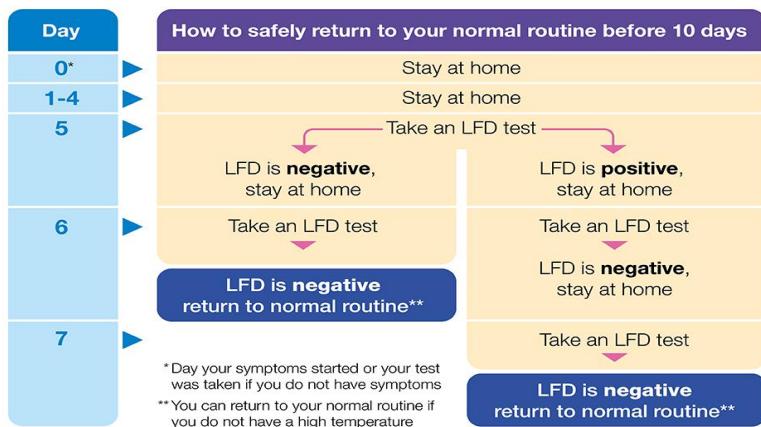
- Staff and pupils no longer have to carry out twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests.
- Visitors, staff and parents no longer need to wear face coverings, but may choose to do so as personal preference and school will respect this choice.
- Close contacts/household members are no longer required by law to isolate if they come into contact with a positive COVID case- they should attend school as normal (unless they test positive, please see information below).
- Close contacts/household members no longer need to take daily lateral flow tests if another household member tests positive.

It is important to note that some of our operational guidance will not change. Please ensure you have fully read the information below in order to keep staff and pupils as safe as possible.

- If you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to school, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. This is necessary in order to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. To that end, the school reserves the right to refuse entry if a child presents with any of the three recognised symptoms: continuous cough, temperature or change in smell/taste.



How to safely return to your normal routine before 10 days:



If your day 5 LFD test result is positive, you can continue taking LFD tests until you receive 2 consecutive negative test results.

- If a pupil is isolating in the home due to a positive COVID test, remote learning will be provided by their school in the usual way.
- We will maintain appropriate cleaning regimes and ensure good hygiene for everyone.
- Good ventilation in all occupied spaces will continue to be encouraged and CO₂ monitors/air purifiers are installed across the school.
- Some individual school measures, such as year group break and lunch sittings will continue to be in place.
- Extra-curricular clubs, sports clubs and booster/revision lessons will continue as normal.
- Any education trip or visit will be subject to risk assessments as normal.

Please note that attendance at school is compulsory and remains a key priority for not just our Trust, but nationally. We politely ask that parents/carers contact their school immediately should your child not be attending for any reason. Our Education Welfare Officers and Attendance Teams will continue to challenge parents/carers who do not send their children to school daily and punctually.

We have been advised that the national school guidance is to be reviewed on 1st April 2022 and is subject to change should Public Health England or Public Health Wakefield deem it necessary to implement short-term changes to our operational guidance. If this is the case, we will ensure any changes are communicated.

Thank you all for your unfailing support as we work hard to provide the highest education in these ever challenging times

Mrs Robinson
Primary Executive Head Teacher
Airedale Junior and Infants Schools.