



## Maltby Lilly Hall Academy

Dear Parent/Carer

15<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### **Re: Recent Covid-19 Updates**

#### **Daily testing for contacts of Covid-19**

Yesterday afternoon, the DfE confirmed in an email to leaders that from today, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, "a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of Covid-19 is being introduced (including until the end of this term). All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with Covid-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating."

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should:

- Take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#) and to their school.
- If they test negative, they can continue to attend school.
- If they test positive, they should self-isolate and order a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.
- Outside of school, they should continue to follow the advice set out in the [Sunday 12 December press release](#).
- Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.
- For students with SEND who struggle to or are unable to self-swab daily for 7 days, settings should work with students and their families to agree an appropriate testing route, such as assisted swabbing. Please contact for further information.
- This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.

We will inform you if there has been a confirmed covid case in your child's class using our normal channels of communication. In these cases, we will ask you to undertake regular testing with your child as outlined above. While your child returns a negative test, they should continue to attend school.

Parents of primary pupils should order LFD Tests through the [NHS online ordering tool](#) or through local services such as pharmacies or the Service Centre

In addition to the information above, we now have confirmation from UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency, formally Public Health England) of our first Omicron cases in the Maltby borough. Following an Incident Management Team (ITM) meeting this morning with Maltby school leaders and UKHSA, we will be increasing the use of face coverings by staff and reinforcing regular messaging around hand hygiene with all children – please support us by repeating this with your child at home. In addition, please ensure that you are vigilant for any Covid-19 symptoms and test your child using an LFD test if you are unsure.

These precautionary measures will be reviewed by UKHSA over the Christmas period in time for the January return. We will provide further information about any measures which will be in place in January as soon as we can.

Yours faithfully

Mr R Pease  
Principal

