



**CULVERHILL SCHOOL**  
**“Inspire, Nurture, Thrive”**  
(Specialist SEND College –  
Communication and Interaction)



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Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022

**Re: Changes to COVID guidance**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all had an enjoyable and safe half term break and it was so lovely to be able to welcome the pupils back yesterday.

I am writing to update you on our school operational plan in the light of the new Covid guidance. As ever, we will put the health and safety of our pupils first and therefore our interpretation of the new advice will exercise caution.

Schools **can** continue to ask pupils and staff not to attend school if they are symptomatic or test positive for Covid. Therefore we will still expect you to keep your child at home if they have any of the classic symptoms of Covid (temperature, cough, changes to smell or taste). Anyone with symptoms should take a PCR test and remain off school following a positive result for at least 5 days. They can return to school on Day 6, if they have 2 consecutive negative LFT results, taken on Day 5 and Day 6. Pupils who have symptoms but are unable to test should remain at home for 10 days.

Please note that free PCRs and LFTs will be available until the end of March and can be ordered online from <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Further changes for now include:

- The removal of requirements for close contacts to test (this means we will no longer send texts about cases in school)
- The removal of requirements for unvaccinated close contacts to isolate
- Face coverings are no longer required but are still advised for transport. Anyone who chooses to wear a face covering in school, may of course do so.
- School trips will resume.
- Annual reviews and parents evenings will remain online for now

Below is a Covid Information Sheet which should answer most of your questions about testing and isolation.



These are transitional steps and over time we expect a gradual reduction of these measures. We will be reviewing our arrangements at Easter.

Thank you for your continued support.

Very best wishes for now,

Sue

Sue Hewitt  
Headteacher  
Culverhill School

**Please report COVID issues using [testing@culverhillschool.org.uk](mailto:testing@culverhillschool.org.uk)**

Confirmation of test results can be sent to the cover email address for our attendance records. (Any positive PCRs and LFTs and negative PCRs or LFTs after isolation)

Changes to guidance:

- Schools can continue to request that pupils do not attend school if they test positive or have any symptoms of COVID.
- Anyone who develops COVID symptoms is advised to immediately self-isolate and have a PCR test.
- Pupils that cannot tolerate testing are advised to self-isolate for 10 days from the day of the first symptom.
- COVID symptoms are a new persistent cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste or smell.

<b>PCR tests &amp; Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs)</b>	<p>LFTs are no longer a requirement for pupils who are asymptomatic. However, two negative LFTs are required to end isolation before day 10.</p> <p>Staff in special schools will continue to test twice a week.</p> <p>Free PCRs and LFTs will be available until the end of March and can be ordered online from <a href="https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests">https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests</a></p>
<b>Self-isolation</b>	<p>Your child <b>should</b> self-isolate if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• develop COVID symptoms. <b>In this case a PCR test is also advised.</b></li><li>• don't have symptoms but get a positive LFT result</li></ul> <p><b>Isolation rules</b></p> <p>Self-isolation is initially for 5 days.</p> <p>To end isolation there must be two negative LFTs at least 24 hours apart, with the first taken on Day 5 and the second on Day 6. Your child may end isolation and return to school on Day 6 if they have two consecutive negative test results taken 24 hours apart.</p> <p>If the LFT results are positive, continue to isolate and test daily until Day 10. If the test is positive on day 10 but your child has no symptoms, they can return to</p>

	<p>school on day 11.</p> <p><b>The results should be registered with NHS and the confirmation of a negative results shared with school.</b></p> <p><b>Isolation rules for pupils that can't tolerate testing:</b> Self-isolation is for 10 days.</p> <p><b>After the isolation period:</b> Your child <b>should not</b> return to your school until they have been 48 hours fever free without medication. If your child continues to feel unwell after 10 days they should continue to self-isolate and you should seek medical advice.</p>
<b>Contact with COVID cases</b>	<p>There is no longer any requirement for anyone who has had contact with a case to take daily LTFs.</p> <p>Culverhill School will no longer be informing parents of cases in school.</p>