

ST WILFRID'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Principal: Miss C Huddleston BA PGCE MBA

Address: St Wilfrid's C of E Academy, Duckworth Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 2JR Tel: 01254 604000 Email: enquiries@saintwilfrids.co.uk Web: www.saintwilfrids.co.uk

10th January 2022

UPDATES TO TESTING & SELF-ISOLATION RULES

Changes to PCR test eligibility

The government have announced that **only symptomatic people** will be able book a PCR test with effect from Tuesday 11th January. If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 you must **book a PCR** test as soon as possible. You are strongly advised to book your child's PCR at a test centre (you can find local test centres using <u>this link</u>); ordering a postal PCR test takes longer to return the results which may delay any treatment.

Please contact the school on 01254604000 to report the result of a positive lateral flow test or PCR test, or out of hours you can email enquiries@saintwilfrids.co.uk; please include:

- the time and date of positive LFD test (if taken)
- the time and date of confirmatory PCR test
- any close contacts of your child within the Academy, including on the way to and from school
- the end of isolation period (10 full days after symptoms started but see below for details on ending isolation early).

Please note from **Tuesday 11/1/22**, <u>if your child tests positive with a routine LFD, they will no longer be eligible to book a confirmatory PCR</u>. They must isolate at home for 10 days.

Ending Your child's Isolation Earlier Than Day 10

Your child <u>may</u> be able to **end their COVID-19 isolation early and return to school from day 7** if they do a rapid lateral flow test on days 6 and 7 of their self-isolation period and:

- both tests are negative
- they did both tests at least 24 hours apart
- they do not have a high temperature.

If their test on day 6 is positive, they should test in the same way on day 7 and then day 8, ending isolation immediately if the above points apply. The diagram below may help you with the process. The left-hand (green) column refers to the normal 10-day isolation however the right-hand diagram demonstrates the procedure for completing their isolation early using LFD (lateral flow tests).

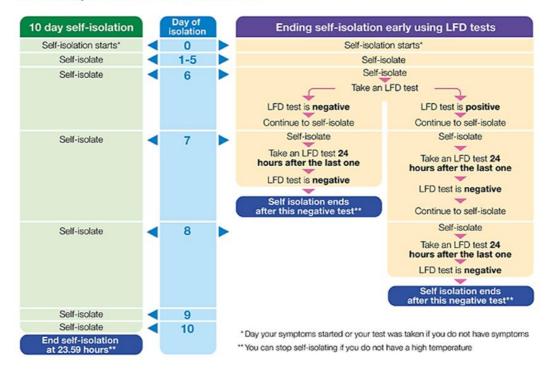


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Examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms or have received a positive COVID-19 test result



Close contacts of a positive case isolation

If your child lives with, or has been in contact with someone with COVID-19, they will not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- They are fully vaccinated this means 14 days have passed since their final dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine
- They are under 18 years and 6 months old (Parents of Year 13 students will want to note this particular criteria)
- They are taking part or have taken part in an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- They are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.

If they do not have symptoms, they are strongly advised to do daily rapid lateral flow tests (1 a day for 7 days), follow advice on how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19 and consider limiting contact with people who are at higher risk from COVID-19.

Remote Learning whilst Isolating

If your child is well enough, they should use Firefly to access any work from their teachers. You can track their tasks set on your parent Firefly account.