



## Mission Statement

***Guided by Jesus' love and example, we use our gifts to grow, pray and learn as a community; united in faith.***

17<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to update you on the changes to the COVID guidance. Although numbers of positive cases are dropping slightly, there are still a high number in Derby and Alvaston.

Currently, we have 6 confirmed cases of COVID in school. These are isolated to two year groups. **If your child is in Year 3 or Year 4, please could we ask that they take a LFD test each morning for the next 7 days.** That way, we will be able to track the spread closely and inform Public Health England if needed.

### DFE Advice – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022

#### Changes to testing and the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

- If an individual tests positive on a LFD test (they DO NOT need to get a confirmatory PCR test), they will need to start their isolation immediately from the day their symptoms started or the day of the positive LFD test which is Day 0.
- From today, Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January, the isolation period for those who receive a positive LFD test results has been reduced to 5 days in most circumstances, unless someone cannot test for any reason.
- Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 5 and day 6 of their self-isolation period. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart (we recommend taking the tests at 7am or before so that children can return to school on day 6 if they are negative and do not have a high temperature).
- Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. If the test is positive, continue to self isolate until there are two consecutive days of negative results. These results must be reported to NHS Test and Trace before individuals return to school, if leaving self-isolation earlier than the full 10-day period.
- 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 or childcare setting from day 6.
- This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion.
- Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.
- You are only asked to take a follow up PCR test after a positive LFD test if you:
  - wish to claim the Test and Trace Support Payment;
  - have been advised to take a PCR test because they are in a clinically vulnerable group;
  - have been advised to do so as part of a research or surveillance programme;
  - have received a positive day 2 LFD after arriving into the UK.

**If anyone has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, they are strongly advised to take a PCR test, not an LFD test.**



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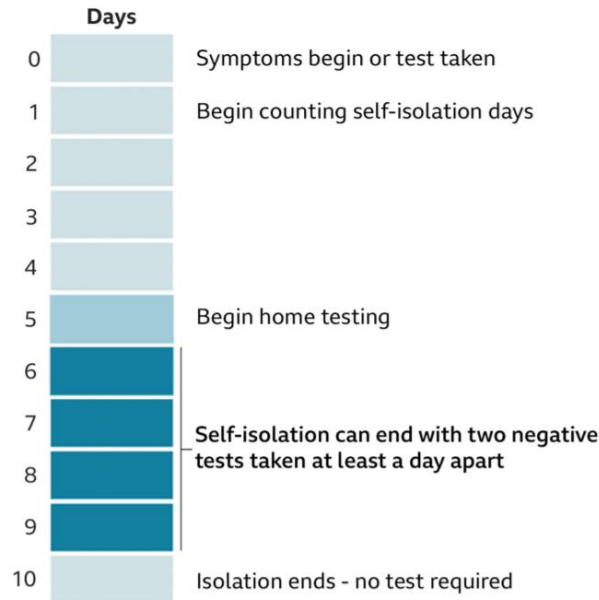
**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



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### How five-day isolation rule works in England



### 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. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start 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](#).

If you have any questions or queries, or need to discuss or report a positive LFD case of COVID-19, please contact the school office on [admin@djf.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:admin@djf.srscmat.co.uk) or 01332 572154.

We look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best Wishes

Mrs Brett - Head Teacher



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