

Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

School Number 840 3087

Westcroft

Stanhope

Bishop Auckland

Co Durham

**DL13 2NU** 

Tel: 01388 528218

Email: admin@stanhopebarrington.org.uk

Website: stanhopebarrington.org.uk

Dear Parent/Carer 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Re: Changes to self-isolation and testing requirements in schools

I am writing to try to give some clear guidance about actions parents should take if they think their child has Covid.

## What should I do if my child has a positive Lateral Flow result?

From today until 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 you should give your child a Lateral Flow Test. If it is positive you should then book a PCR test. You must inform the school office if your child has had a positive Lateral Flow result and also inform the office of the outcome of the PCR test.

If the PCR result is positive your child should isolate for 7 days. If they have negative Lateral Flow results on day 6 and day 7 they can return to school on day 8.

From 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022, if your child has a positive Lateral Flow result you DO NOT need to book a PCR to confirm a positive test result. You must inform the school office of a positive Lateral Flow result and commence the 7 day isolation period.

## What should I do if someone else in the household has a positive result but my child does not have any symptoms?

If your child has been a close contact of someone with Covid-19 e.g. an adult or other child in the household has tested positive, you should carry out daily Lateral Flow testing on your child for 7 days. If your child has a negative Lateral Flow result they can still attend school. If your child then has a positive Lateral Flow result you should begin the isolation period for them.

## When does the isolation period begin?

The 7 day isolation period begins from the day symptoms begin or if there are no symptoms from the first day there was a positive Lateral Flow test.

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We appreciate that the guidance can be complicated and on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 there will be the temporary suspension of the need for a confirmation PCR test. If you are at all unsure about what to do please ring the school office and we will advise you.

Thank you to everyone who has erred on the side of caution and who have made the right decisions to protect our staff, children and others in school.

Despite the increase in cases nationally and locally, we continue to have very low levels of positive cases among children and adults in school however, I would like to reassure all parents/carers that the numbers are monitored every day and absences and reasons for absence are reported daily to the Department for Education on our daily return. Please be assured that our Risk Assessment is under constant review and you will be notified if it becomes necessary to tighten or implement further restrictions in school.

If you are at all concerned please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross Head Teacher

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