

22nd February, 2022



YEAR 1

Dear Parent/Carer

Leicester City Public Health has asked that you arrange for your child to take daily lateral flow device tests (LFD) for the **next 7 days** because they have been identified as a close contact of coronavirus. All close contacts of cases who are aged 5 to 18 and a half are being asked to have this test to try and reduce the spread of the virus.

This advice is in line with government advice: [What parents and carers need to know](#). Daily testing is advised because first tests may not pick up early infection with Covid. Your child does not need to self-isolate and should continue to attend school whilst the results are negative, if they are well and have no COVID-19 symptoms.

If any of the tests are positive, then your child will need to isolate from the date of the positive test. They do not need to take a PCR test but should isolate from the date of the positive LFD test, this should be counted as day 0. Isolation is for 10 days but may finish early if your child has two negative LFD tests on day 5 and day 6 of their isolation period; these tests should be 24 hours apart. If both are negative your child can end their isolation period and return to school on day 6. If either of these tests are positive then your child will need to stay isolating until they have two negative tests 24 hours apart or after 10 days of isolation, whichever is the earliest. Remember the day symptoms begin or the test is positive should be counted as day 0.

If your child has had a positive PCR test within the last 90 days, they should still do daily lateral flow tests for 7 days if they have been identified as a close contact and they will need to self-isolate if their test is positive.

Children who are aged 4 and under do not need to take a PCR/LFD test unless they have symptoms or are a close contact of a household member.

Information on how to get a LFD test is available at: gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test. The online ordering portal is currently being switched on and off to manage demand but there is no shortage of kits, so if the site shows as closed it may be worth checking back later the same day.

LFD tests can also be collected from lots of places in the city including at your local pharmacy. Information on where to pick up LFD tests is available here: leicester.gov.uk/rapidtests.

We recognise that it is not always easy to carry out testing on children but understanding who might be positive and asking them to isolate is a very good way of reducing the spread of the virus.

With best wishes

Public Health