



13<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## Dear Windmill Family

Yesterday the government announced new measures to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus across the country. Please see below details of changes in relation to the testing of children **introduced as from today** that have been introduced to stop the spread in schools.

Please read this carefully and support us by following these measures so that we can stop the increase in cases in school.

### 1. Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19

From Tuesday 14 December, **all adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months**, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test **every day for 7 days** instead of self-isolating. Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 will help protect education settings by reducing transmission and will also help keep pupils in face-to-face education.

1. Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible pupils should take an LFD each day for 7 days **and report the results through the Online Reporting System and to their setting**. If children test negative, they can continue to attend school..
1. **If they test positive, they should self-isolate and order a PCR test to confirm the result**. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.
1. For **primary aged children LFD test kits** are available through community test sites, local pharmacies or online.

Children under five years old do not need to take part in daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 and do not need to isolate.

1. **Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate** in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.

Thank you for your support and vigilance in keeping our school safe.

**Suzanne Edwards**

**Principal**