



Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

Striving for Excellence

Acting Principal • Mr Rhys Phillips

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7th January, 2022

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all members of our community for supporting the safe return to school this week. Over the last 2 days we have conducted over 900 Lateral Flow Tests within school. As I am sure you can imagine this is a large logistical operation and we are very proud of the way in which students have cooperated with this testing regime. My thanks also to all members of school staff, including our Exam Invigilators, who have led this process.

Lateral Flow Testing at home

Testing at home remains one of our key preventative measures to control the spread of Covid 19 within our school community. Please can all students continue testing twice weekly at home and [report all results to NHS Test and Trace](#) and via our [online reporting form](#). Test kits will continue to be provided by the school.

Covid guidance

At this current time guidance is changing rapidly, and we will continue to share updated information with our school community via our normal methods of communication. You may wish to view the following Government document which outlines

[‘What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)’](#)

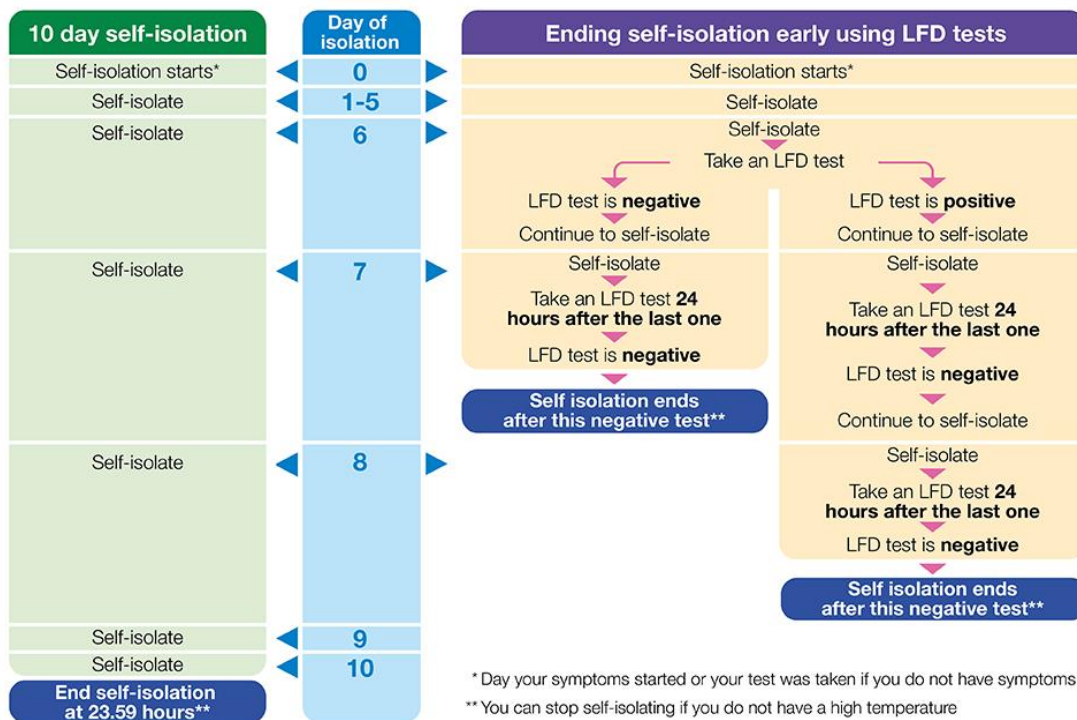
One change in guidance issued this week is that confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. 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 school from day 8.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

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



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 a LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. Students can attend school if there is a positive case in the household but we strongly request that daily lateral flow testing is performed in this instance.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any queries email us at admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk

Best wishes,

Rhys Phillips
Acting Principal