



Eastway Primary School
Rossall Road
Moreton
Wirral
CH46 8TA

Headteacher: Mrs Emily Morris

☎: 0151 677 1235
✉: schooloffice@eastway.wirral.sch.uk
🌐: eastway-primary.eschools.co.uk

COVID-19 UPDATE

18th January 2022

Contact tracing and self-isolation in education and childcare settings

As you are aware, education and childcare settings are not expected to conduct routine contact tracing as we have done previously. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case - or in the case of children - the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts. NHS Test and Trace already manages the contact tracing process for the rest of society - including children who have recorded a positive PCR test - and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts. Just to be clear, if we have a positive case in school now, we will not inform families but I will continue to keep you updated. If your child has a positive case in their class we will no longer inform you. Below is more detail about how that process will work and what you need to do if your child tests positive for COVID-19.

Self-isolating and taking a test

If your child has COVID-19 symptoms (*High Temperature, New and Persistent Cough and Loss of Taste/Smell*), they should self-isolate, and you should immediately order a PCR test for them- NOT a Home Test (LFT). If the PCR test result is negative, they can stop self-isolating. If the PCR result is positive, they must self-isolate.

1. If your child has a positive result from a lateral flow device (LFD) home test, they should self-isolate - and you should inform us immediately. You should book a confirmatory PCR test ONLY if your child has symptoms. If the confirmatory test is taken within two days and the result is negative, they can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the confirmatory PCR test is positive (or is taken more than two days after the LFD), they must self-isolate.
2. From Tuesday 11th January 2022, confirmatory PCR tests will no longer be needed if your child tests positive on a LFD test without symptoms.
3. PCR tests can be booked online through the [NHS Test & Trace website](#) or by calling 119.
4. PCR test results will be recorded with NHS Test and Trace automatically, but you should also communicate the result to the education or childcare setting.
5. The government has recently introduced an option for individuals who test positive to end their self-isolation period early. The guidance changed again on 17th January, you can begin testing on day 5. If you test negative on an LFT on both Day 5 and 6, your isolation can end on day 6 and return to school on Day 7.
6. Individuals who take an LFD test on day 5 and day 6 of their self-isolation period and receive two negative LFD test results taken 24 hours apart are no longer required to complete the full 10 days of self-isolation. If a person does not wish to or cannot participate in voluntary day 5 and day 6 LFD testing, they must continue to self-isolate for the full 10 day self-isolation period.
7. LFD Test should be taken before 10.30am and both tests should be taken 24 hours apart.
8. It is not recommended that children under the age of 5 complete these tests and continue to isolate for the full 10 days.

Changes to Isolation Periods

The isolation period is still 10 days but can be reduced to **5 full days** (as long as your child is well enough and without a temperature) and receives **2 consecutive negative** LFD results which were **taken 24 hours apart**.

The earliest they should take the first LFD test is on day 5.

Any **positive test** after a first **negative test** would mean that the first negative is **null and void**. This would **reset** the isolation period and your child would still require 2 consecutive negative tests from this point forward. You must register results with the NHS Website [here](#) and you must **e-mail** both those results to school. You can order a pack of LFD tests [here](#).

TO RETURN ON THE DAY OF A SECOND NEGATIVE TEST, BOTH TESTS WOULD NEED TO BE TAKEN BEFORE 9AM.

Anyone who tests positive must isolate for a full 5 days.						Scenario 1 A negative test on Day 5 and then Day 6. Isolation ends on Day 6 once the 2 nd LFD test is negative.				
Day Zero	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
Day Zero is the day symptoms started or the day the test was taken if asymptomatic. Day 1 of isolation is the day after Day Zero.						Negative LFD	Negative LFD			

Anyone who tests positive must isolate for a full 5 days.						Scenario 2 A negative test on Day 6 and then Day 7. Isolation ends on Day 7 once the 2 nd LFD test is negative.				
Day Zero	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
Day Zero is the day symptoms started or the day the test was taken if asymptomatic. Day 1 of isolation is the day after Day Zero.						Positive LFD	Negative LFD	Negative LFD		

Anyone who tests positive must isolate for a full 5 days.						Scenario 3 A negative test on Day 7 and then Day 8. Isolation ends on Day 8 once the 2 nd LFD test is negative.				
Day Zero	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
Day Zero is the day symptoms started or the day the test was taken if asymptomatic. Day 1 of isolation is the day after Day Zero.						Positive LFD	Positive LFD	Negative LFD	Negative LFD	

Anyone who tests positive must isolate for a full 5 days.						Scenario 4 A negative test on Day 8 and then Day 9. Isolation ends on Day 9 once the 2 nd LFD test is negative.				
Day Zero	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
Day Zero is the day symptoms started or the day the test was taken if asymptomatic. Day 1 of isolation is the day after Day Zero.						Positive LFD	Positive LFD	Positive LFD	Negative LFD	Negative LFD

Anyone who tests positive must isolate for a full 5 days.						Scenario 5 A negative test on Day 9 and then Day 10. Isolation ends on Day 10 once the 2 nd LFD test is negative.				
Day Zero	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
Day Zero is the day symptoms started or the day the test was taken if asymptomatic. Day 1 of isolation is the day after Day Zero.						Positive LFD	Positive LFD	Positive LFD	Negative LFD	Negative LFD

Anyone who tests positive must isolate for a full 5 days.						Scenario 6 Isolation will end at 11:59pm on day 10 so no need to test as child can return on Day 11.				
Day Zero	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
Day Zero is the day symptoms started or the day the test was taken if asymptomatic. Day 1 of isolation is the day after Day Zero.						Positive LFD	Positive LFD	Positive LFD	Positive LFD	Positive LFD

In any scenario, the isolation period can only end if your child no longer has a high temperature. This applies even if they have tested negative twice. If children still have a high temperature after Day 10, they should stay off school and seek medical advice such as contacting your GP or phoning 111.

Contact Tracing

If your child gets a positive PCR test result, NHS Test and Trace will contact you, using the details you registered when booking/ordering/registering the PCR test. You and/or your child may be asked a series of specific questions designed to identify who your child has been in close contact with. Being in an education or childcare setting with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not necessarily mean a person is identified as a close contact.

You may be asked to provide the contact details, if you know them, of any of the individuals - or their parents or guardians - who have been identified as close contacts. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch with these close contacts and provide appropriate instructions or advice (see below).

Self-isolation and/or testing of close contacts

Individuals are NOT required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

1. they are fully vaccinated
2. they are below the age of 18 years 6 months
3. they have taken part in, or are currently part of, an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
4. they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
5. Close contacts aged five and above are strongly advised to take part in Daily Testing of Covid Contacts. This means that if you are identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace or a public health official that you will be asked to take seven daily LFD tests. It is strongly advised that the daily LFD test is taken before leaving the house for the first time each day and provided the test is negative, your child will be able to continue attending their setting
6. Participation in Daily Testing of Covid Contacts is advisory but is strongly encouraged. This will help reduce transmission and support continued face-face education.
7. We would also advise any individuals identified as close contact to follow the guidance on [how to stay safe and help prevent the spread](#). Additionally, UKHSA [Stay at home guidance](#) details some further actions that close contacts may wish to take in addition to getting a PCR test.
8. Most supermarkets, council buildings and pharmacies have test kits available, for more information use this link- <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/covid-19-testing/covid-19-tests-people-who-do-not-have-symptoms>.
9. School **CANNOT** provide PCR or LFD test kits for families. We are only provided with a limited number for our staff and as many of us are now testing daily, we do not have any spare.
10. If you are isolating or have a positive case in your household but your child remains negative and feeling well, they must attend school. You will not be able to bring them in as it is a legal requirement that you remain at home but you must seek arrangements to have them brought in and collected from school. If you keep your child off school, their attendance will not be authorised unless under exceptional circumstances.

We understand that as guidance changes and is often unclear, it is difficult to know what to do for the best.

You can always call or email us at schooloffice@eastway.wirral.sch.uk and we will always do our best to help you.