

16th December 2021

Dear Parents,

On the return to school in January, following government guidelines, we will once again be carrying out lateral flow testing of students in years 7 to 11. If you have not already given your consent to LFT testing in school, or if you have previously given consent and now wish to withdraw it, please complete the [consent form](#) as soon as possible and before 3rd January 2022. This form does **NOT** need to be completed if your consent status has not changed.

From Tuesday 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 was introduced. 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 LFD test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, individuals should take a LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the government [Online Reporting System](#). If they test negative, they can continue to attend school. If they test positive, they should self-isolate and [order or book 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 a subsequent test is positive. In the event of a positive lateral flow test, the result must be communicated to school via the covid@sheldonschool.co.uk email with a follow up email reporting the result of the PCR test.

All students will have been given LFT tests in the final week of term. Please continue to test twice weekly through the Christmas holiday, reserving a test to carry out on Monday 3rd January before our return to school on Tuesday 4th January. In addition to recording the result of this final test on the government website, we ask that you also record the result on a short form for our records in school. A reminder to carry out the test and a link to the form will be sent out at the end of the Christmas break.

Yours faithfully



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