



# ST RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Changes to National Guidance – Daily Testing for Contacts of COVID-19**

Please see below the latest updates from the DFE in relation to changes on what you are being asked to do if someone in your household tests positive for COVID-19;

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**DAILY TESTING FOR CONTACTS OF COVID-19**

**From Tuesday 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 is being introduced (including until the end of this term). 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 by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.**

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.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the Online Reporting System and to their setting. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow the advice set out in the Sunday 12 December press release. This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.

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.

All staff and secondary aged pupils and students should have access to a box of 7 LFD tests from their education setting. For primary aged children LFD test kits are available through the usual routes (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.

"May God's love shine in our lives as we care and share and learn together."

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.

For students with SEND who struggle to or are unable to self-swab daily for 7 days, settings should work with students and their families to agree an appropriate testing route

Finally, it is important to continue regular twice weekly, at-home testing for all education and childcare workforce and all students of secondary age and above.

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Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school and community safe. If someone in your household does test positive for Covid-19 your support with daily testing would be appreciated and you can notify school via [admin@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk).

If there are any positive Covid-19 cases during the Christmas Holidays please inform the school via [head@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk).

Kind regards,



**Mrs Lynn Lakner**  
**Headteacher**