



Mellor News

Issue 5

Working in Partnership

January 2022

Audio Newsletter

If you would prefer to listen to an audio version of this week's newsletter this can be accessed [HERE](#). The newsletter is read in both English and Gujarati.

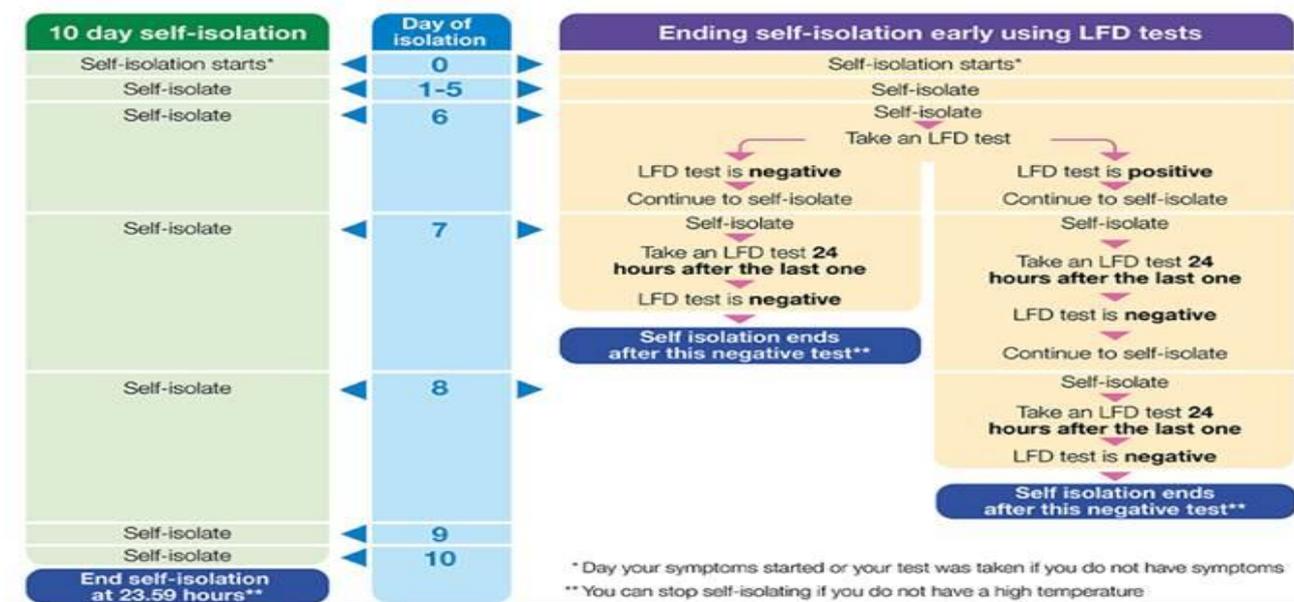
Changes to isolation rules for those who test positive for COVID-19

The 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances. 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. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental discretion. 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 your education setting from day 8.

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

The table below is very useful and helps to clarify the new isolation rules.

New isolation rules for those who test positive for Covid-19



Confirmatory PCR tests to be temporarily suspended for positive lateral flow test results

From 11 January in England, people who receive positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. This is a temporary measure while COVID-19 rates remain high across the UK.

Lateral flow tests are taken by people who do not have COVID-19 symptoms. Anyone who develops 1 of the 3 main COVID-19 symptoms should stay at home and self-isolate and take a PCR test. They must self-isolate if they get a positive test result, even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test – these rules have not changed.

Under this new approach, anyone who receives a positive LFD test result should [report their result on GOV.UK](#) and must self-isolate immediately but will not need to take a follow-up PCR test. After reporting a positive LFD test result, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace so that their contacts can be traced and must continue to self-isolate.

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 an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing.

Attendance

We have a new attendance incentive starting this half term, every week your child has 100% attendance they will be given a virtual raffle ticket. At the end of each half term we will raffle off a hamper of goodies. The more 100% weeks your child has, the more raffle tickets and therefore the more chances to win. Parents will receive an email each week if their child has received a raffle ticket. Good luck everyone!

Punctuality

Please could all parents ensure children arrive to school on time. Arriving late can be disruptive to your child's learning. Our drop off time in the morning is 8.45am, please note gates are closed promptly at 8.55am.

Protective Measures

Please could all parents continue to observe the one way systems at drop off and collection times. Maintain a social distance and wear a face covering unless you are medically exempt. These measures will help to keep our school community safe.

Mobile Phones

Please could all parents avoid the use of mobile phones on the school premises, particularly the use of phones to take images or videos of children whilst on the playground.

Play Equipment

Please can we remind all parents and carers that they are required to ensure that school children and younger siblings **do not play** on the school play equipment at the start and end of the school day. This is important as staff are unable to supervise the play equipment when they are receiving/dismissing children.

Operation Encompass

Our school continues to be part of the Operation Encompass joint working initiative with the police. This involves the reporting of police attended domestic abuse incidents to the school, prior to the start of the next school day. This means we are able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have experienced a domestic abuse incident.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this continues to be extremely beneficial for all those involved.