

28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

**Re: Changes to guidance – “Living with COVID-19”**

I hope you have had a lovely half-term break. Thankfully the site team reported last week that the school was not damaged at all by storm Eunice – a lucky escape as I know many homes and roads were affected locally by storm damage.

As you are likely aware the legislation and guidance surrounding Covid-19 changed this week. Here is a summary of the guidance and how it relates to students and staff returning to school from tomorrow:

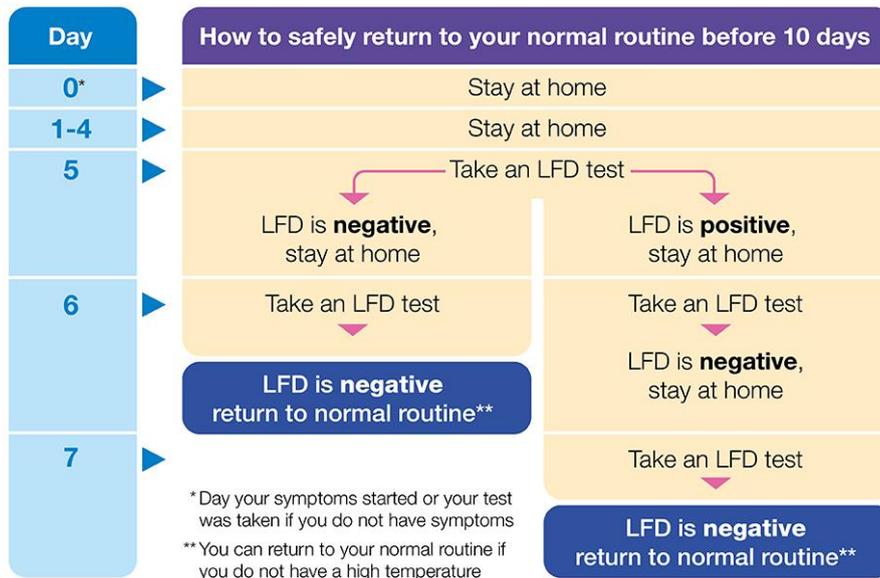
**What to do if your child tests positive or has symptoms of COVID-19**

**If your child develops symptoms, they are still expected to book a PCR test.**

There is no longer a legal requirement for people who test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) to self-isolate, however if your child has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, **the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.**

As such, if your child tests positive for Covid-19 please continue to inform the school and do not send them in for at least 5 full days until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. Online learning will be provided if your child is self-isolating which will follow their normal timetable.

Please see the flow-chart below for a summary of when to safely return to school.





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Richard Brand: Headteacher

### Twice-weekly regular asymptomatic testing

From 21 February, staff and students in secondary schools will not be expected to continue to take part in regular twice-weekly asymptomatic testing. As such we will no longer be distributing LFD testing kits. One exception to this is that students and staff who are part of the EPIC centre will continue to take regular tests in line with government guidance.

In the event of a surge in cases within the setting the school may also be advised by our local health team or director of public health to undertake testing for staff and students for a period of time.

### Face coverings

Face coverings are no longer advised for students, staff and visitors in classrooms or communal areas. Staff and students should follow wider advice on face coverings outside of school, including on transport to and from school.

Thank you for your support with following this guidance. If you have any specific questions, please direct them to [info@thedeanacademy.org](mailto:info@thedeanacademy.org)

Yours sincerely

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Headteacher

RJB/TW – changes to guidance-280222



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