

**10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

Dear Parents, Carers and Colleagues

I do hope that staff and children have all enjoyed their first week back at school after the Christmas break. I am once again writing to you to share details of latest changes to national guidance around Covid-19. As promised, we will look to keep you informed of any changes which may affect our school communities.

As per the latest Government announcements, from tomorrow (Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022), as a temporary measure, asymptomatic people who test positive on a lateral flow test will no longer need to access a confirmatory PCR. There are some exceptions to this rule. This includes those who are eligible for a test and trace support payment, and those who are participating in research programmes.

The day that a person tests positive on the lateral flow test will be day 0. As per the previous letter, that person must isolate for 7-10 days, dependent on whether they have 2 consecutive days of negative lateral flow tests (please refer to the letter sent on 4<sup>th</sup> January for full details).

Any individual with the 3 main Covid symptoms of a high temperature, new continuous cough or loss of/change in sense of taste or smell must still access a PCR test.

We do not yet know how long this temporary measure will be in place, but will share an update once any change is confirmed. For further details, please view the Government press release, found here:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/confirmatory-pcr-tests-to-be-temporarily-suspended-for-positive-lateral-flow-test-results>

Please see the flowchart overleaf illustrating this latest change.

As always, Waterton Academy Trust continues to follow Government guidance around control measures, testing and isolation as we continue to work through these difficult times.

Stay safe and well.



Mr. D Dickinson OBE  
CEO  
Waterton Academy Trust

