



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together, succeeding together

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15 December 2021

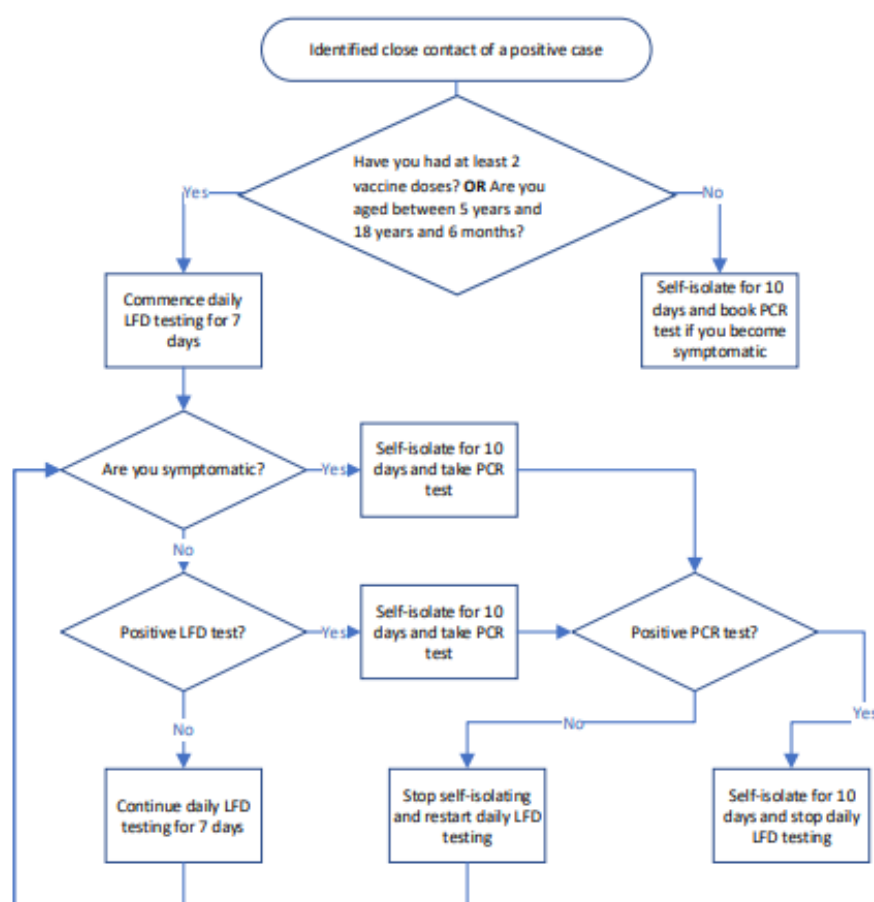
Dear Parents/Carers,

As the urgency around the Omicron variant has stepped up and new measures are being introduced regularly, I thought it best to write with you with the latest updates that follow on from my letter sent two weeks ago.

Firstly, I would like to update you on a school level. The reintroduction of a year group bubble did contain the cases we had in school and I am pleased to say that we have seen a big reduction in cases and we now have no positive cases linked to the school as it stands. However, the local area has seen a large increase in cases over the last two weeks which mirrors the picture nationally. We are keeping all our measures in place at school to help reduce the risk including the hand washing, cleaning, ventilation and use of face coverings. The need to isolate immediately if someone develops symptoms of Covid and/or has a positive lateral flow test remains the same and a PCR test should be booked.

Changes since my last update to you

- As you know, you are now required to wear face coverings in most indoor settings outside of school. (This still does not apply to pupils in Primary school.)
- If you or your child is in **contact** with a positive case of Covid (regardless of the variant), then for those who are **double vaccinated or a child aged over 5**, you are now asked to do **lateral flow tests** daily for a week. You do not have to isolate if you are a contact in these circumstances unless the lateral flow comes back positive or you get symptoms. Here is a clear diagram showing the new rules:



'To be able to dream about the future, while being inspired in the present to reach those dreams' Dr Russell J Quaglia



Aspirations Academies Trust
in association with Quaglia Institute

The Aspirations Academies Trust – Company Registration Number: 07867577
Chief Executive: Steve Kenning

- This new rule of using lateral flow tests for children in primary school is different to previous guidance. Please note, pupils **below the age of 5** are not required to isolate or take lateral flow tests if they are a contact but would still need to isolate and take a PCR if they have symptoms.
- **Contacts** will continue to be contacted by the Track and Trace system so you should follow any advice they give
- You can **order lateral flow tests** at: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>
- The **updated advice** for parents and carers can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

Learning at home

Whilst we do not anticipate any school closures and truly hope this is the case, we are aware that there may be times your child cannot attend or has not been able to attend school due to needing to isolate. I would therefore like to remind you of our procedures and how we set/mark work whilst they are off.

Where pupils have tested positive for Covid-19 or have symptoms and are awaiting a test but are well enough to learn from home they will be provided with the following:

- *In the first instance parents or carers will be sent a link for Oak National Academy lessons for that day. This will give school staff time to plan personalised work for the child if required. Work completed from the Oak National Academy should be posted on Seesaw/Tapestry for staff to mark.*
- *Once a result has come through and pupils need to continue to isolate and are well enough to work, staff will provide the work that children will be completing in class in an adapted format to support their learning from home. This will be posted daily on Seesaw/Tapestry (if required paper copies will be provided).*
- *Children should complete the work daily and submit it onto Seesaw/Tapestry for feedback and support from staff. (Paper copies can be handed in and marked.) It is important that the children do this so they do not fall behind whilst off.*
- *Consideration will be taken for vulnerable children and provision of devices may be required. Where families do not have access to the internet, paper copies of work will be available from school. We ask families to let us know if this is something you need support with if/when the time comes.*
- *Free school meal hampers will be offered and delivered where appropriate.*

We have been working together as a community for over 20 months now battle this pandemic and as always, I remain super proud of everyone for doing their part and supporting the school. We are almost at the Christmas break now so I wish you the best holidays and hope you have a safe, relaxing time.

Kind regards

A E Rogers

Mrs Amy Rogers
Principal