



5th January 2022

Dear Parents

We have a good first day back in the academy today. As I mentioned at the end of term, I am so proud of all the children for their enthusiasm and resilience at school in 2021 and the same goes for our staff team who are continuing to provide high quality education and pastoral support and care despite all the challenges. We are all looking forward to an exciting and successful year ahead. Nevertheless, I'm sure everyone is aware that there are likely to be more challenges over the next period of time, particularly with regards to the prevalence of the Omicron variant and the impact of this on staffing in school.

Our priority continues to be to provide face to face education in the academy for the children. We know this is the best way to ensure the children receive the very best education and support for their wellbeing.

I am writing to let you know what our approach will be if COVID-19 absences amongst staff become too high to continue to operate the school normally. At present, the school continues to be open as normal.

Where staffing absences occur as part of the latest wave of COVID-19, including the Omicron variant, we will first seek to cover all classes through internal cover or supply staff. We are determined to avoid disruption to your child's education as far as we can.

If we cannot secure the necessary cover, we will close the classes affected and you will be contacted as soon as possible via ParentMail. Any child in an affected class will need to stay at home for a specified period.

We will use the Seesaw app for Years 1 – 6 and Tapestry for children in Reception class to set appropriate work. This will vary from class to class and will depend on the availability of teachers and others to work remotely.

We are committed to minimising the disruption to your child's education and will continue to deliver high quality teaching and learning throughout this period. For the purposes of providing

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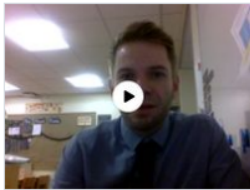
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remote learning we may make use of live lessons on Teams, a variety of recorded teaching and various resources in line with our remote learning policy. Our remote provision allows children to keep on track with their learning, covers our broad and rich curriculum and closely aligns with learning in the academy so that, in the event that face to face education is not possible for a period of time, the children do not miss out.

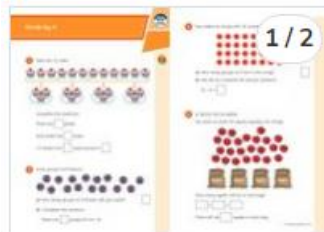


Wednesday 24th November - Morning Message

Good Morning! Please watch the video about the tasks that have been set for you to do today. Have a good day!



Maths

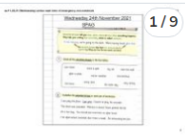


13.12.21 Phonics - ay (2 videos reading and spelling)

Please complete the reading and spelling using the videos attached.

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/hdBE1O6N/TlpdoUbl>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZQVLnwE7/oATwB1Ss>



Wednesday 24th November - Literacy

For this lesson, we are starting to use our new core text 'T on:

- What makes the text effective.
- Why the author has chosen particular words and phrases:
- Any tier 2 words that the author has used.



19.11.21 History - the Queen

Please look at the fact file and create your own crown of facts!

Providing children are well enough, it is important that children complete the learning set so that they stay on track with their learning.

If your child needs to self-isolate due to Covid-19 we will of course provide remote learning for them also using the Seesaw and Tapestry platforms.

It is also important that where individual children are isolating and the rest of the class is in school that they too complete remote learning to keep them on track.

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The academy has a very small number of laptops that can be loaned for pupils to access remote learning where there is no suitable device available at home. Please contact me in the event that this would be helpful.

I appreciate that any closure will be disappointing for pupils, and cause inconvenience for parents. However, the safety of everyone in school is our absolute priority and we will continue to do everything we can to manage the risks.

As COVID-19 cases rise in the community and nationally, it is important that we continue to follow public health advice.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, we ask that they do not come to school and take PCR test. Anyone with symptoms is eligible for PCR testing, even if a LFT result is negative, and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

Helping to stop the spread of Covid

Since there is continued concern around the 'Omicron' variant at the present time, we will continue to maintain our current approach in school to help stop the spread. We ask for your help in supporting us in keeping these routines in place. This approach includes:

- Asymptomatic testing for staff and visitors.
- Staff wear face coverings in communal areas and when moving around the school site
- Washing or sanitising hands regularly as part of our daily routine

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- Enhanced cleaning throughout the day.
- Good ventilation in classrooms.

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

If a relative or household member has tested positive for COVID-19 (on LFD or PCR), we would like pupils to stay at home for 5 days if possible

If possible, they should take daily lateral flow tests as per Government advice. If they develop symptoms, they should get a PCR test straight away and continue to stay at home. If they have no symptoms after 5 days and daily lateral flow tests (if taken) are negative, they can return to school.

Parents/carers who still want their child to continue to attend school have the right for them to do so. We hope that most parents will understand the reasons behind the request and will feel able to support it, especially as they will have at least one household member self-isolating at home already. **This is help to prevent further transmission of the Omicron variant which may affect our ability to staff face to face education for the rest of the children.**

Change to self-Isolation rules

Since Wednesday 22 December, 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, unless you cannot test for any reason.

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 or guardian 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 or childcare setting from day 7.

Please see the following flow chart regarding the new isolation arrangements

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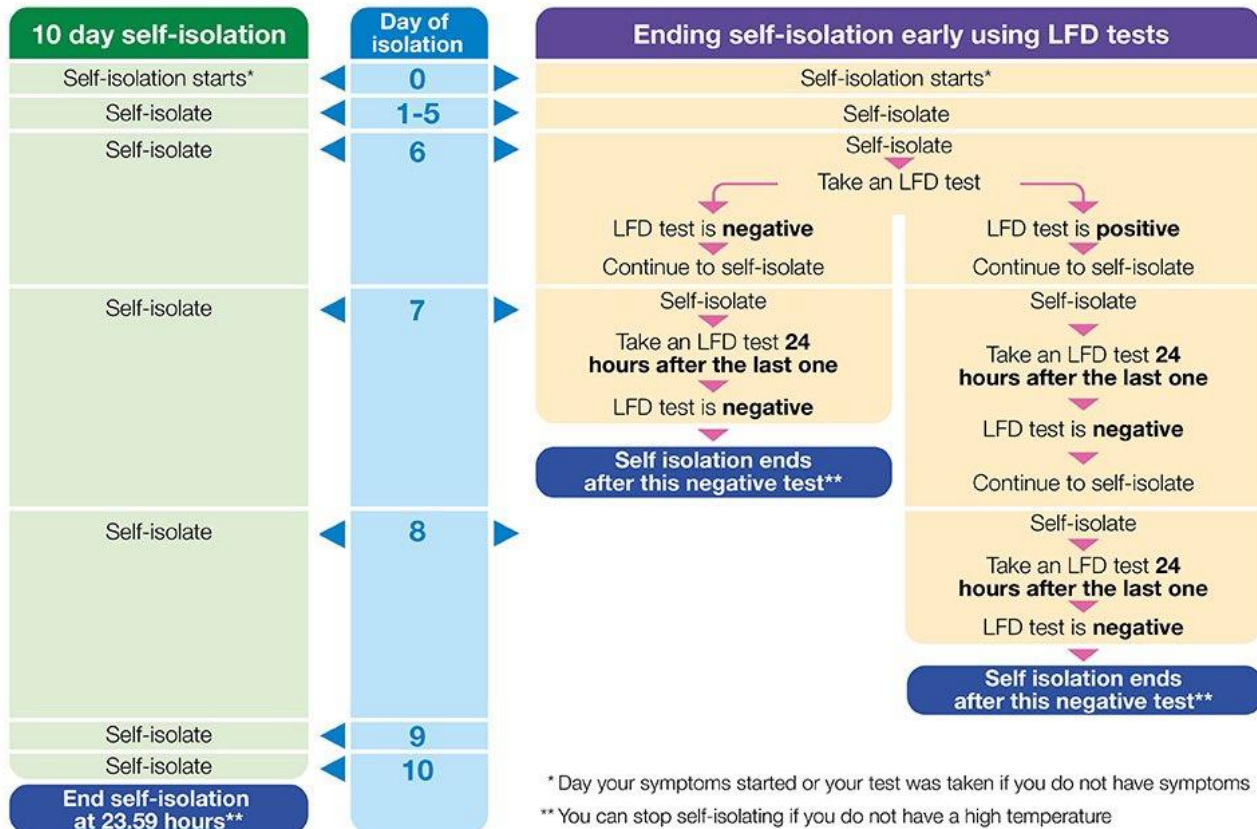
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Please keep yourselves safe and healthy. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch in the usual way.

Kind regards

With kind regards

Mrs C Elliott
 Headteacher