

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Communications for Families and Staff re changes to Isolation rules**

The guidance around isolation in response to the rise in Omicron cases in the UK is being amended and the announcement can be read in full here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/daily-rapid-testing-for-covid-19-contacts-launches-this-week>

The following applies from **Tuesday 14 December to anybody identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19, whether Omicron or not.**

In all circumstances, individuals must follow advice from Test and Trace.

**Any adult who is fully vaccinated (2 jabs) & ALL children aged 5 to 18 years 6 months**

- **Those who test negative on a rapid LFT:** continue to attend school/work.
- **Those who test positive on a rapid LFT or develop symptoms** will need to get a PCR test and self-isolate until the result is known.
  - If the PCR result comes back negative, contacts can leave self-isolation but should continue to take rapid tests for the remainder of the 7 days.
  - If the PCR result comes back positive, contacts must self-isolate for 10 days from the day they took the positive rapid test or developed symptoms. They do not need to continue taking rapid tests during that 10-day isolation period.

People who can prove they are unable to be vaccinated for clinical reasons will also be required to participate in the daily testing.

**Any adult over 18 years and 6 months who is unvaccinated must** continue to self-isolate for 10 days if they are a contact of someone with COVID-19.

**Children aged 0 to 4 years (Nursery)** are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing.

Lateral flow tests are free of charge from NHS Test and Trace either through pharmacies, schools (Secondary only) or home delivery by ordering online. People are encouraged to use the tests they already have at home before ordering more. People should take these tests from the day they are notified as being a contact and report their results to NHS Test and Trace on GOV.UK or by calling 119.

In line with guidance, contact tracing will be carried out by NHS Test and Trace and not schools.

Please continue to notify school of any cases in your family/contacts of your family using the email address [covid19@beckfootpriestthorpe.org](mailto:covid19@beckfootpriestthorpe.org)

Yours Sincerely

Gareth Medd (Acting Headteacher)