

Children and Families
PO Box 837
Leeds
LS1 9PZ

Date: 1 March 2022

Dear parents and carers

You will be aware that the government issued new advice during the half term holidays about self-isolation and testing which affects you and your child. This letter sets out what the new guidance is.

Government advice is still that your child should stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have tested positive for COVID-19 or have COVID-19 symptoms. If your child is symptomatic, they should get a PCR test as soon as possible.

Your child can return to school after 10 full days isolation. They may be able to return earlier if they test negative for two days in a row from day 5 of self-isolation and do not have a temperature. If they continue to test positive during the 10-day isolation they can return after completing 10 full days isolation.

Your child will still receive work to do at home if they need to self-isolate, as well as free school meal support if they are eligible for this.

Secondary school aged pupils are no longer expected to wear a face covering in school classrooms or communal areas, but if there is a rise in infections in your child's school, this may change.

If your child is considered clinically vulnerable they should still attend school and should follow any additional advice they may have been given by their doctor.

If your child attends a mainstream secondary school, they are no longer encouraged to test themselves twice a week for COVID-19. If they attend a special school, a special school unit in a mainstream school or alternative provision, they are expected to continue with twice weekly testing and you will continue to receive testing kits from your child's school.

Your child's school will continue to take a number of measures to reduce the spread of the virus, including thorough cleaning, ensuring spaces are well ventilated and encouraging good hygiene.

Thank you for your help and co-operation.

Guidance you may find helpful:

[COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts)

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges)

[Schools COVID-19 operational guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/guidance/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance)

[Special schools and other specialist settings: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/special-schools-and-other-specialist-settings-coronavirus-covid-19)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shaheen Myers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Shaheen Myers
Deputy Director
Children and Families
Leeds City Council