



*Where Children Come First*

Ms Beverley Boswell  
Headteacher (BEd Hons) NPQH

The Grange Community Primary School  
Avocet Way  
Banbury  
OXFORDSHIRE  
OX16 9YA

T: 01295 257861  
E: office.2058@grange.oxon.sch.uk

27 February 2022

Good afternoon all,

I hope that you have had an enjoyable and restful break.

I want to share with you, two items. Firstly, a summary of COVID-19 DfE Updates sent from OCC The Education COVID-19 Cell. In particular please read the red text in this communication.

*Over the half term there have been two key changes:*

*From 21 February the DfE are no longer advising regular asymptomatic testing in most education settings, and COVID-19 will be increasingly managed in line with other infectious diseases through public health guidance. However here is no change to testing arrangements for staff and secondary age students and above in special schools, alternative provision, and SEND/AP units within mainstream schools and colleges who will continue to be offered twice-weekly testing.*

*From 24 February the legal requirement to self-isolate has been removed. or advised to take daily tests, and contact tracing has ended.*

*As a result of these key changes in the DfE Guidance the key documents have been updated.*

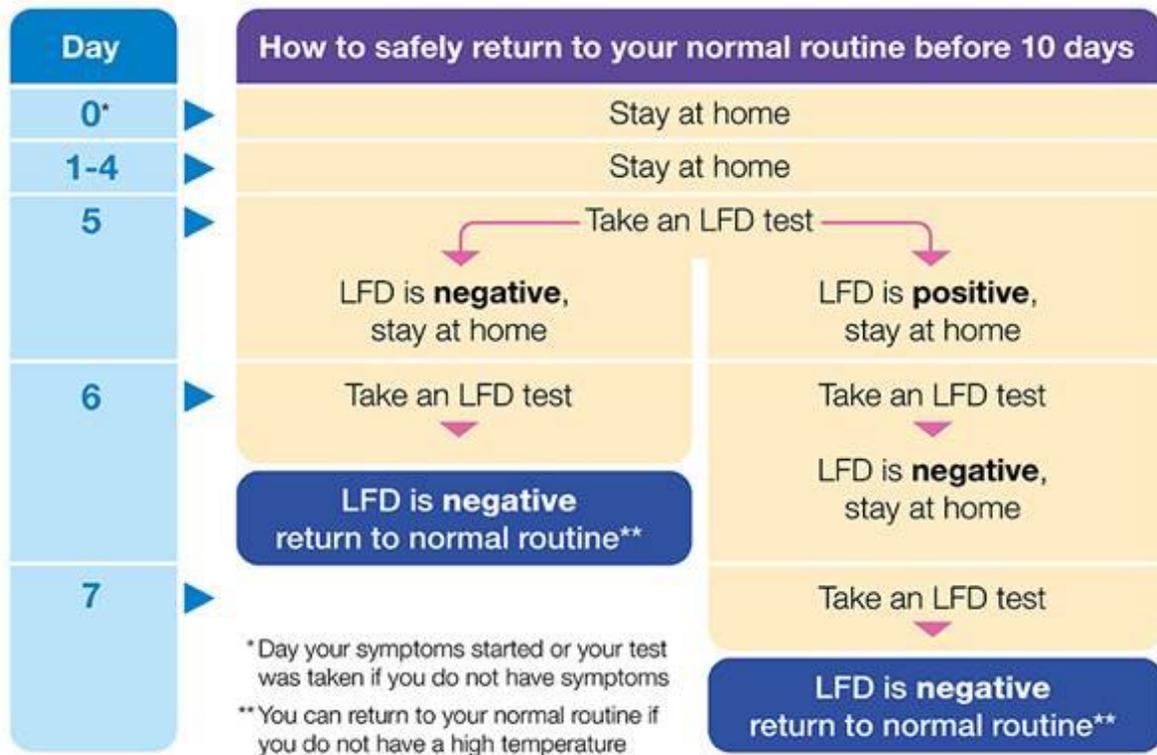
### **UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency) advice contains the following statement regarding attendance at school**

*Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to their educational setting if they normally attend one, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. They should follow the guidance for their educational setting.*

*If your day 5 LFD test result is positive, you can continue taking LFD tests until you receive 2 consecutive negative test results. You may find the following table useful to share with parents.*

### **How to safely return to your normal routine before 10 days**





Main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) - NHS ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)) Explains what to do if you have symptoms.

As in the previous DfE guidance there is advice about children returning to school. Schools COVID-19 operational guidance ([publishing.service.gov.uk](http://publishing.service.gov.uk)) (Page 10).

### Welcoming children back to school

**In most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with the key symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend the school, given the potential risk to others.**

**If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending your school where they have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, you can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in your reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19**

Headteachers have been reminded that we must continue to comply with health and safety law and put in place proportionate control measures and regularly review and update our risk assessments - treating them as 'living documents' - as the circumstances in our school and the public health advice changes. This includes having active arrangements in place to monitor whether the controls are effective and working as planned.

As of Friday 1 April, guidance will be reviewed once more and the government will:

- replace government advice to stay at home following a positive Covid-19 test with the expectation that people will 'exercise personal responsibility'.
- end free symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public, though free symptomatic testing to the oldest age groups and those most vulnerable to Covid will



continue. The government also intends to work with retailers to ensure that "everyone who wants to can buy a test".

Secondly, I want you to be aware that it is inevitable that the invasion of Ukraine by Russia will come up in conversation in school. I am not sure what conversations you have had with your children (if any) about the situation. This link may be helpful in explaining it your children – the older year groups especially.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/60417806?fbclid=IwAR1Z2-kJIndYYXMAnlUoitxkA-uGJketw66FadyK7O-sEcgSD2EOoqJ4OL0>

In terms of what we will talk about at school, that will be guided by our children. If they ask questions, we will answer the questions, but we will keep it simple - it is important to give children an opportunity to share feelings and ask questions. I must impress though, that we will think about the people of Ukraine and indeed Russia daily and always remain impartial. We appreciate that some of our children will be anxious and scared – especially if they are seeing news bulletins at home.

That is it for now – check you calendars for events coming up at school next week...I am looking forward to our PTFA's Pancake Day activities.

See you tomorrow folks.

Take care,



Ms Boswell

