



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year and pass on the teams best wishes to you and your families. The start of the term has once again been a challenge for us, as we have had up to 10 staff absences at any given time. We are doing all we can to manage the situation considering the new Covid wave. The team here at Wheeler, have been nothing but remarkable in managing to adapt and cope with the challenges we face, and I feel confident that we will be able to keep school operating in as usual way as possible.

Changes to Testing and Procedures

Since we broke up for Christmas the advice has changed re-testing has changed are the procedures for when there are positive cases in schools. These are as follows:

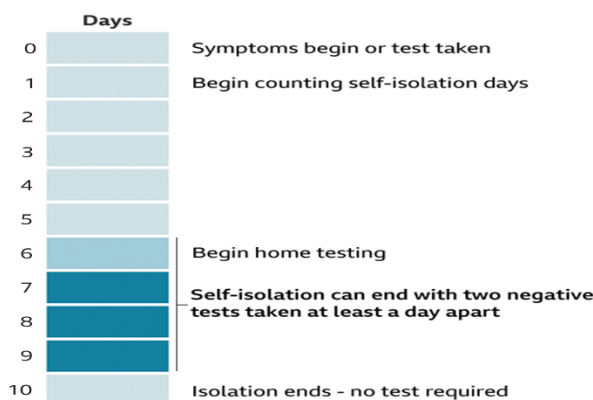
Clarification on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19. Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test 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.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation. This should help the process moving forward.

Government guidance also states that if anyone is in contact with anyone in school or in your household who tests positive, they are to take an LFD test every day for seven days and will only be able to be in school if it remains negative. We will inform you of this when it is necessary if this occurs in school.

How seven-day isolation rule works in the UK



Source: NHS



Ventilation and additional Layers

The Government advice and our risk assessment continues to include making sure rooms are well ventilated. I would encourage the children to wear additional layers in the classrooms and perhaps a fleece. The heating is on constantly but with the obvious winter drop in temperatures the classrooms can be chilly. School fleeces are still available from Steady school wear at <https://steadyschoolwear.co.uk/> Staff will show their discretion and try and ventilate more when the children are out of the classroom.

Super SPARK DAYS– Year 5 and 6

Well done to all the children in Year 5 and 6 who took part in their SPARK Day this week. This term's Historical based themes have really got off to a great start. It was also brilliant to see the amazing 'Home Learning Challenges'. Once again – thank you for your support as parents.

School Menu Next Week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Meat Balls & Tomato Pasta Seasonal Veg Homemade Garlic Bread	Chicken Goujons with mashed potatoes Carrots & Broccoli	Pizza Garlic Bread Seasonal Veg	Roast Chicken Yorkshire Pudding Roast Potatoes Seasonal Veg	Fish & chips served with mushy peas or beans bread and butter.
VEG OPTION Veg Meatball Pasta in Tomato Seasonal Veg Homemade Garlic Bread	VEG OPTION As above with Vegetable Pie	VEG OPTION As above with Garlic Bread Seasonal Veg	VEG OPTION Veg Sausage Stuffing Pudding Roast Potatoes Seasonal Veg	VEG OPTION Vegetable nuggets served with chips, peas and bread and butter
Chocolate berry sponge & custard	Chocolate Shortcake and Custard	Raspberry Swirl Cake and Custard	Ice cream	Cooks Mix of Friday Treats

Key Dates

14th Jan – Year 5 and 6 Respectful Relationships Workshops

7th Feb- Year 5 Bikability begins

17th Feb- school closes for half term

1st March – school re opens after half term

Many thanks for your continued support

Best wishes, Mrs C Mudd and The Wheeler Team