

Friday 1st April 2022

R.E. Changes to Covid-19 Guidance

Dear Parents, Carers and Colleagues

As I am sure you are aware through recent announcements, there has been a further update to the government guidance around Covid-19. From Friday 1st April, free lateral flow and PCR tests will no longer be widely available to the general public. Some individuals in specifically listed professions or with health conditions may still be able to access testing.

We do acknowledge that many people will have lateral flow test kits in their home already, or may choose to purchase test kits if they are concerned about potential infection. It is not a requirement to do so, however knowing whether an illness is Covid-19 may help you and your household to identify the most appropriate steps to take, including steps to protect the rest of the household. The updated guidance does give different advice for individuals who have confirmed a positive case, summarised in the grid overleaf.

Key points to be aware of are:

- Adults with symptoms of respiratory illnesses should work from home where possible. In many roles this will not be possible, however staff should discuss this with line managers. If symptoms include a high temperature or an adult is too unwell to be in work they should remain home until there is no longer a high temperature and they feel well enough to return to work. The guidance differs if the adult has had a positive test, please see overleaf.
- Children with mild symptoms who are well enough to attend school should come to school. This is not the case where the child has a high temperature, or is too unwell to attend. The guidance differs if the child has had a positive test, please see overleaf.
- Children with positive tests can resume normal activities after 3 days, for adults this is 5 days. This is because the government have identified that children are unlikely to be infectious to others for as long as adults.

More information can be found by following the below links, including a list of symptoms of respiratory illnesses and examples of individuals who are still able to access free tests:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19>
and <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus/>

I would take this opportunity to once again thank you all for your support and patience during these changes.

Stay safe and well.



Mr. D Dickinson OBE
CEO
Waterton Academy Trust

	Adults with symptoms	Adults with a positive test	Children with symptoms	Children with a positive test
Day 0	n/a	Test taken on Day 0	n/a	Test taken on Day 0
Day 1	Work from home where possible. If you have a high temperature or are too unwell to work you should remain at home until well with no high temperature	Remain home	Children with mild symptoms should continue to attend school. Children who are too unwell to be in school or who have a high temperature should remain at home until well with no high temperature	Remain home
Day 2	As above	Remain home	As above	Remain home
Day 3	As above	Remain home	As above	Remain home
Day 4	As above	Remain home	As above	Return to school UNLESS the child is not well enough to do so OR still has a high temperature. Children can return to school once they are well and have no high temperature
Day 5	As above	Remain home	As above	As above
Day 6	As above	Resume normal activities UNLESS you are not well enough to do so OR you still have a high temperature. Resume normal activities once you are well and have no high temperature	As above	As above