

Luckington Primary School The Green Luckington Wilts. SN14 6NU

Headteacher: David Cook e-mail: admin@luckington.wilts.sch.uk

Phone: 01666 840297

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Dear Parents,

In relation to the most recent government COVID guidance, I thought I would share some clarification that has been given to us by Wiltshire Council.

Please be aware that the current guidelines around testing and isolation will stay in place until the end of Monday 10th January before changing to what is described below.

Changes to PCR test requirements for people who receive a positive lateral flow test:

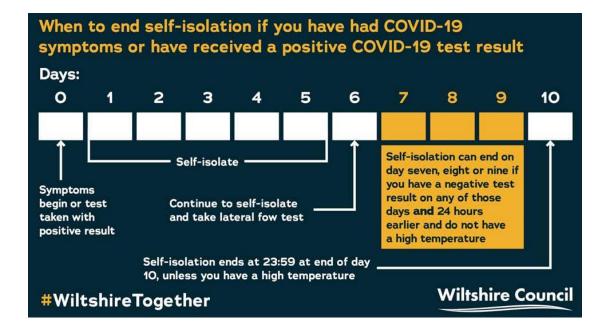
The UK Health Security Agency has confirmed that from Tuesday, 11 January, people who receive a positive lateral flow test result and are symptom-free will no longer be required to take a follow up PCR test to begin their isolation period.

Under the new guidance, people who test positive on lateral flows will still need to isolate for at least seven days, and will need to register their positive lateral flow results, but will no longer take a PCR test.

People experiencing the three official COVID symptoms - a high temperature, new, continuous cough and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - will still need to get a PCR test.

At the moment, people without symptoms who test positive on a lateral flow test are asked to order a PCR test and to only begin their isolation period when they get the second result. This effectively requires them to isolate for longer than seven days, especially if there are delays in getting the PCR result. These new temporary changes are being brought in while case rates are so high.

More information can be found at <u>Confirmatory PCR tests to be temporarily</u> suspended for positive lateral flow test results - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).



We have had no specific information about any changes for schools, but will share anything as soon as it becomes available.

Best Wishes,

Mr Cook