

27 January 2022



**THE
HESSLE
ACADEMY**

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Dear Parent / Carer

As I have referred to in recent communications, our area is seeing another high rate of Covid-19 cases and this includes our school community. The number of reported cases amongst the student and staff body was such that yesterday afternoon I had a very productive meeting with members of the local public health teams. Together, we have reviewed the situation and have identified a number of measures that we intend to implement to address the current situation.

With immediate effect, we will be asking all staff and students to:

- Continue to wear a face covering in classrooms and all communal indoor areas, this includes school buses
- Undertake **daily** Lateral Flow Device Testing (LFD)*. This can help to identify asymptomatic cases and thereby reduce the risk of transmission in our school and the local community.

If an LFD test is positive, they student should self-isolate for up to 10 days. The isolation period includes the day symptoms started (or the day a test was taken if they do not have symptoms), and the next 10 full days.**

Please note, if an individual tests positive on two LFD and has no symptoms they no longer need to get a follow-up PCR test, but they should report the result at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result, self-isolate immediately, and NHS Test and Trace will be in touch. Please see GOV.UK for exemptions to this advice.

However, if they develop symptoms whilst taking part in the seven-day LFD testing, they should still immediately self-isolate and book a PCR test as soon as possible.**

The three main symptoms of COVID-19 are high temperature, continuous cough and loss of sense of smell or taste.

*LFD kits can be collected from many places in the local community. Enter your postcode into this website link for more details <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>. Alternatively, they can be ordered via post <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

**Individuals who receive negative LFD results on day 5 and day 6 of their self-isolation period – with tests taken 24 hours apart – no longer need to self-isolate for the full 10 days. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period. The minimum self-isolation period will be five full days, leaving isolation at the earliest at the start of day 6 if they have two negative LFD tests 24 hours apart.



You can order or book a free PCR test by visiting www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or calling 119. If you have any difficulty or issue in obtaining a test, please inform the school office.

We are doing everything we can to keep everyone safe in school, so we ask you to do the same when you are out and about. It is strongly advised that you and your families take care if visiting vulnerable individuals or attending large events or gatherings.

We are grateful for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'V Groak', written in a cursive style.

Mr V Groak
Headteacher