

West Sussex County Council



Headteacher: Helen Drummond

COVID19 UPDATED GUIDANCE

Monday 28th February

Dear West Chilt families,

As I am sure you are aware, the Prime Minister set out plans for 'Living with COVID 19' last Monday. The bottom line for us in schools is that we are in a period where **nothing has fundamentally changed** except for the use of the word 'should' rather than 'must'.

The key changes outlined in the guidance are as follows:

- Staff are no longer advised to undertake twice weekly lateral flow testing *although while testing remains free we will continue to do this and review at the end of March.*
- As of 24th February, contacts are no longer required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests, and contact tracing has ended.
- Even though the legal requirement to self-isolate if you test positive for COVID 19 has now ended, *it is still strongly advised.*

New guidance has been published for schools and refers to the 'COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts' guidance. The full document can be found by following the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

In this guidance the recommendation remains that anyone with symptoms of COVID 19 should stay at home.

*'If you have COVID-19 you can infect other people from 2 days before your symptoms start, and for up to 10 days after. You can pass on the infection to others, even if you have mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. **If you have COVID-19 you should stay at home and avoid contact with other people.***

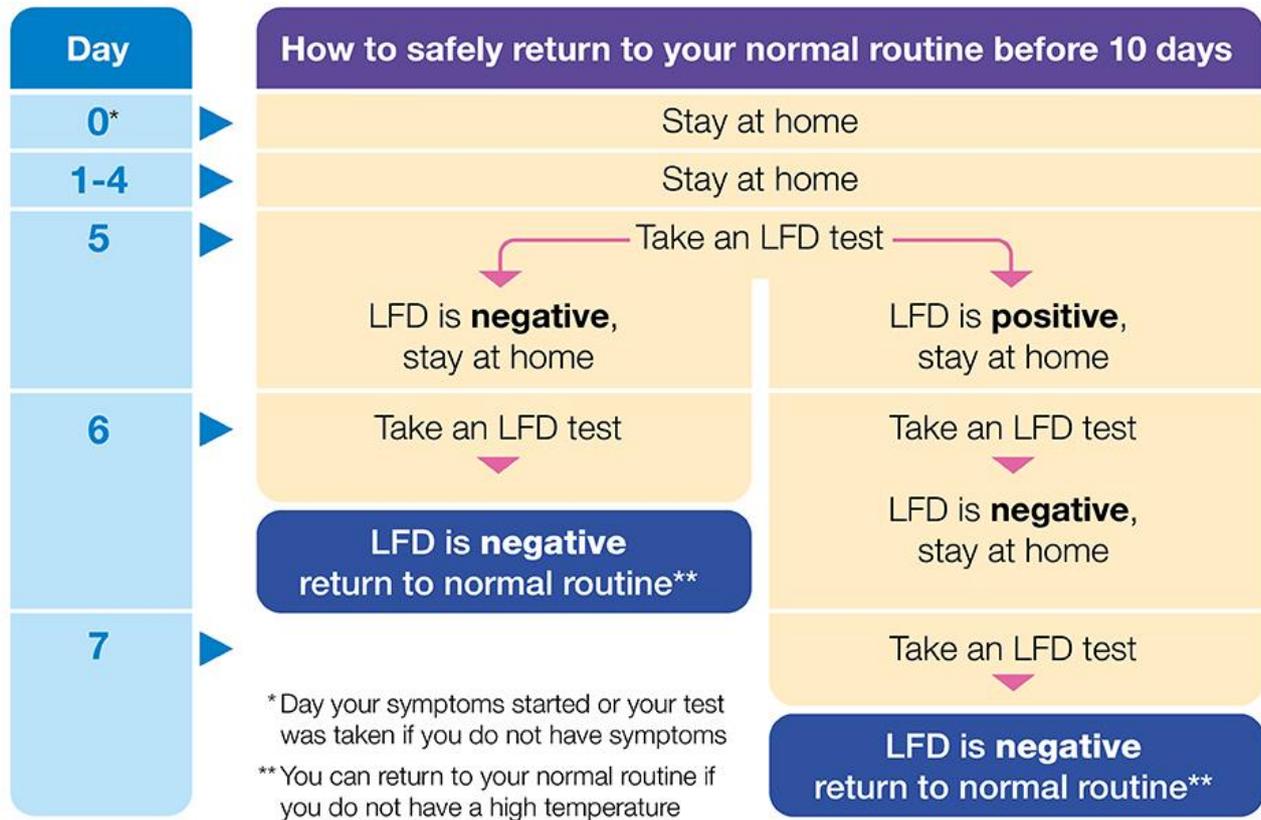
The guidance also specifically states:

'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.'

East Street, West Chiltington, West Sussex, RH20 2JY

01798 813319 01798 815120

office@westchiltschool.com www.westchiltschool.com



(You are still able to order free LFDs [here](#))

In addition:

'Children and young people who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who live with someone who has COVID-19 should continue to attend the setting as normal.'

Should your child present with any of the symptoms of COVID 19, we will continue to contact you to ask you to take your child home and you should book a PCR test as soon as possible.

It can feel unsettling as we learn to live with COVID because it is still very present and particularly in parts of West Sussex where infection rates remain higher than average. However, if we all continue to stay vigilant to the symptoms and act in accordance with the guidance above, we can continue to ensure any disruption to our children's education is minimised.

Thank you for your ongoing support,



Helen Drummond
Headteacher